Dragon Knights
15
Mineko Ohkami
TOKYOPOP

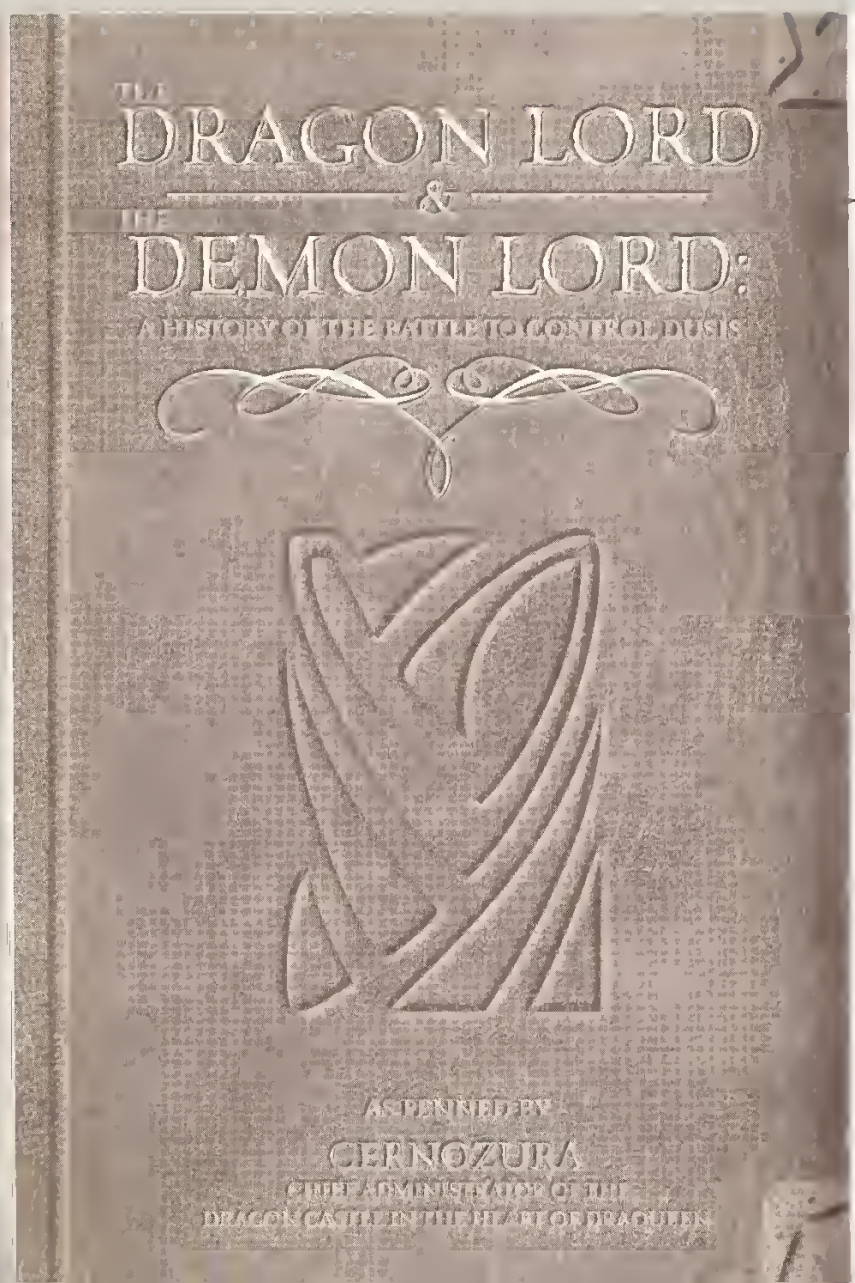
Dragon Knights

Written and Illustrated by
Mineko Ohkami

Volume 15

TOKYOPOP®

HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO



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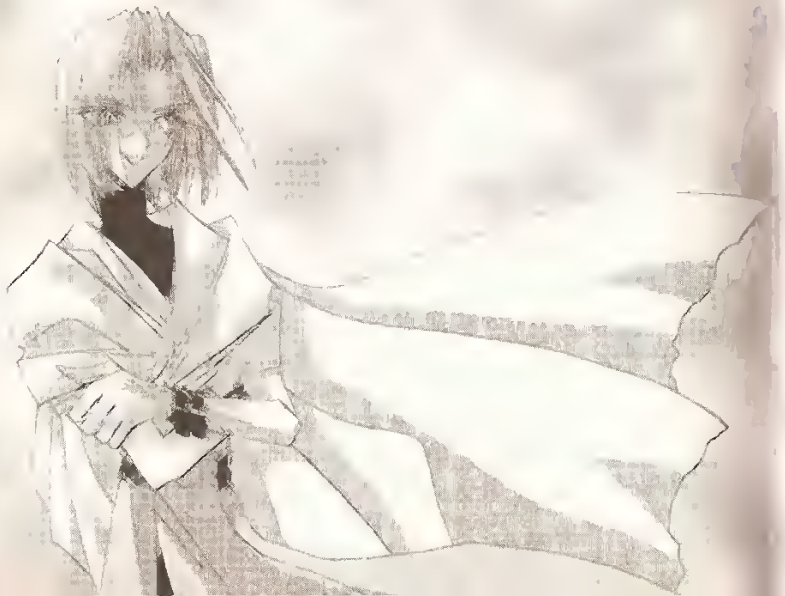
Meanwhile, the Dragon Knights have been dispatched to Rainaldia as well, charged with rescuing Cesia from the wretched grip of Nadil, the future of Dragueen may very well rest in their hands. Requiring the assistance of a demon to gain entrance to Rainaldia, our three brave knights sought the demon Saabel, a sinister devil with the ability to raise the dead. They found him in a small village, largely through the assistance of Pyore, a young girl who has assisted the Dragon Knights in the past. Upon confronting the villain, an unexpected turn of events led to the abduction of the Dragon of Water. A hugely successful rescue attempt was mounted, and Water was soon recovered. Rath took hostage the demon Meteaura, a butterfly-like imp capable of human possession, and perhaps most integrally, the Dragon Knights gained passage to Rainaldia. As for Saabel, the ghoulish demon was sorely defeated, but it is rumored that he still lives.



The Keeper of the Tome

My name is Cernozura and I am the chief administrator for the Dragon Castle, Dragueen in the heart of Dragoon, the Dragon Kingdom. Within these pages I will attempt to chronicle the events of yesteryear in the hopes that it will in turn offer some future understanding of the chaos that currently befalls us. I feel it's imperative that I record a comprehensive history of the events that have led to this dark hour, for I fear that none will remain to tell the tale. My only hope is that this tome may survive so that future generations will know of the valiance of the Dragon Tribe.

Rise of the Demon Lord

Our worst fears have come to pass. The Demon Lord Nadil has been resurrected and he has stolen from the bosom of our care the fortuneteller Cesia, who harbors an incredible magic that we have only just begun to witness. In the service of a villain as pernicious as Nadil, Cesia, whether against her will or willingly giving in to the seductive charm of the dreaded Demon Lord, may prove to be the most dangerous threat we've faced.

On Hostile Ground

On a mission to retrieve three powerful treasures for Lord Lykouleon, the thief Ritchel and her faerie companion Ringleys have successfully obtained the prizes, only to discover that the path back to Dragueen leads directly through Rainaldia, the very kingdom of the Demon Lord. At last report, Ritchel and Ringleys were seen entering the Forest of the Damned, an unholy swamp where the tortured souls of the undead are believed to roam. They have not been heard from since.

DUSIS
HYURA
MT. EPPHAZA
YUBA
GLACIOSA
BERTHA FOREST
KAINALDIA
RIMUNE
CEZARIO
NAJIB'S CASTLE
COSTA-RICA
MEMPHIS
MINTA VALLEY
MIRATTE
POLES
HERMOSA
FAERIE FOREST
CHANTÉL
FIORI
FIORI FOREST
LUA
KUULTA
DRAQUEEN
DRAGOON
LUSCA
CAVE OF THE THREE TREASURES
N
ARINAS

The Villains of Dragon Knights

Nadil

The evil and justly feared Demon Lord Nadil had been slain by the Dragon Lord but his body was recently retrieved and resurrected by his loyal army. Now he once again presides over the Demon Realm, hungry for revenge.

Demon Officers

Shydeman

One of Nadil's generals, Shydeman led the successful attack on Dragueen that brought back the Demon Lord.

Shyrendora

Another general. Shyrendora is sister to Shydeman and also to Tetheus, who fights against her as one of the Dragon Officers.

Fedelta

Answering directly to Shydeman, Fedelta has become one of the most vicious officers in the Demon Army.

Lady Medicinea

Another officer in Nadil's army. Medicinea has an ongoing rivalry with Fedelta.

Other Enemies

Bierrez

The infamous rogue demon. Bierrez's loyalties lie not with the Demon Lord, but with himself.

Saabel

The so called "Collector of Corpses," Saabel possesses the ability to reanimate the dead into puppets he controls.

Kirukulus

An evil sorcerer who was defeated by Rath. Kirukulus still lives and is determined to control Dusis.

Perhaps the most unpredictable of Lykouleon's enemies is the [illegible] Wizard residing on the far continent of Atmos. Khart is unbelievably powerful and looks to rule both the Dragon and Demon Realms. Thus far, Khart has focused on defeating Lykouleon, but it's only a matter of time until he sets his sights on Nadil as well.

Khart

The Dark[illegible] Wizard, Khart is an [illegible] capable of creating demons. He has "created" legions of them, including [illegible].

Garfakey

Khart's human assistant, Garfakey is a sneaky and jealous type. He wants to become a demon, a desire Khart has repeatedly [illegible].

The Heroes of Dragon Knights

Lord Lykouleon

The beloved Dragon Lord, Lykouleon is the sovereign ruler of Dragoon. The resources of the Dragon Clan and the might of the Dragon Army are at his command.

Lady Raseleane

Lykouleon's queen, the Lady Raseleane was rendered barren by the Demon Lord and unable to provide Lykouleon with an heir.

Dragon Officers

Harnessing the power of the five Dragon Balls, the Dragon Officers should number five strong, but after the Demon Army's assault on Dragueen, only two officers remain.

Ruwalk

The Yellow Dragon Officer and Secretary of State.

Tetheus

The Black Dragon Officer and Secretary of Security.

Cernozura

The Dragon Castle Administrator Cernozura is also a self-appointed castle historian.

Dragon Knights

Rath

The Dragon Knight of Fire, Rath is part Yokai and lives for killing demons.

Thatz

The Dragon Knight of Earth, the human Thatz was once a thief and his love for gold hasn't abated.

Rune

The Dragon Knight of Water, Rune is an elf and has abilities the other two Dragon Knights lack.

Other Allies

Cesia

A half demon fortuneteller with the ability to enhance the power of those in close proximity to her.

Cesia's demon friend and companion.

Zoma

Tintlet

A faerie who has sacrificed much for her beloved Rune and her dying race.

Kitchel

Another thief loyal to Lykouleon. Kitchel possesses the powerful Three Treasures and is trying to get them to Dragueen.

A faerie who was rescued from a demon and now accompanies Kitchel.

Ringleys

Lykouleon's human fortuneteller.

Delte

Star Princess

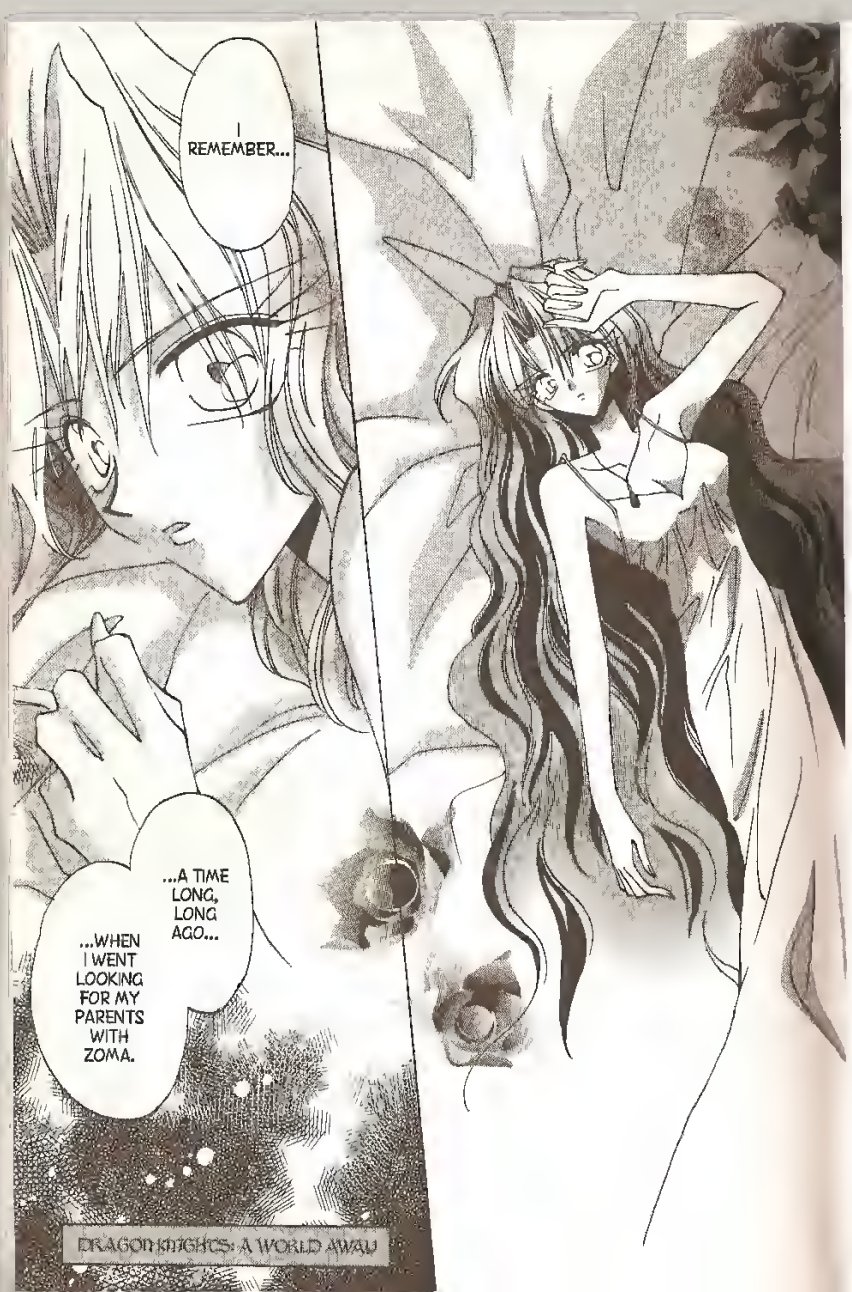
Not much is known about this powerful princess, but she has assisted Rath on several occasions.

The Star Princess's bodyguard. Both the Princess and Grinfish seem to be friendly to Lykouleon's cause.

Grinfish

A human on a mission to save the dying faerie race. Has assisted Rune in the past.

Nohiro



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DRAGON KNIGHTS

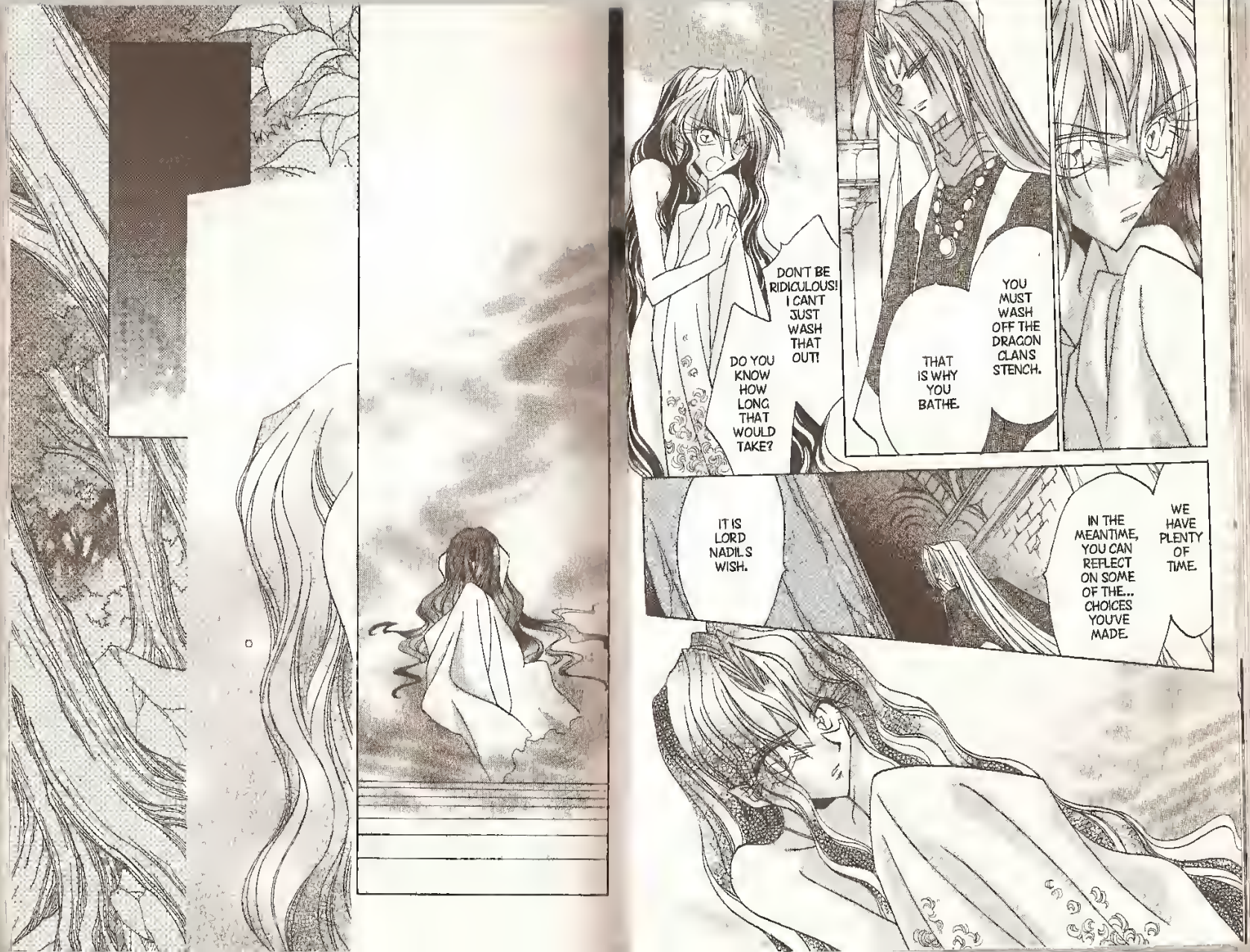
ドラゴン騎士団

A World Away

11°
ニャ!!

NO, I'M FINE.
WHAT DO YOU WANT, SHYDEMAN?
OR ARE YOU JUST HERE FOR A PEEK?
NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO, PERHAPS?
FEELING LONELY, ARE WE?
Hn!!
YOUR ROBE, MY LADY.

THIS IS OVERKILL!
JUST LOOK AT THIS HOT TUB.
And besides...
THIS IS AN EVERYDAY, MUNDANE ACTIVITY.
WHY ARE THEY MAKING SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT IT?
And why do I have to soak in here for so long?
A FEW MORE MINUTES, AND I'M GONNA BE A PRUNE!
IT'S JUST NADIL.
HE SMELLS-- WHY CAN'T I?


YOU MUST WASH OFF THE DRAGON CLANS STENCH.
THAT IS WHY YOU BATHE.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS! I CAN'T JUST WASH THAT OUT!
DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THAT WOULD TAKE?
WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME.
IN THE MEANTIME, YOU CAN REFLECT ON SOME OF THE... CHOICES YOU'VE MADE.
IT IS LORD NADIL'S WISH.

HEY!
QUIT PUSHING! THERE'S NO ROOM.
I WANNA SEE!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID WE SHOULD STICK TOGETHER.
I DIDN'T MEAN LITERALLY!
WE'VE MADE IT.
IT IS THE SKY OF THE FOREIGN WORLD.
THE SKY IS PURPLE.

OOF!

IN THE MOUNTAINS...
...USUALLY OVERLOOKING THE OCEAN!
WELL, BIG, SCARY CASTLES ALWAYS SEEM TO BE IN THE SAME PLACE.
WHERE?
HUH?
WHERE DO YOU THINK NADIL'S CASTLE IS?

SO, RATH...
...HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT GARABA?
WE WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED IF WE ENTERED ITS BODY, RIGHT?
WELL, THEY *WERE* CORPSES.
SOME OF THOSE FACES LOOK SO FAMILIAR.
...WE WERE PLANNING ON FLYING INSIDE OF IT.
EARTH AND I THOUGHT WE HAD THE PERFECT PLAN. SINCE GARABA'S BODY IS A PORTAL...
...I HAVE ANOTHER QUESTION.
ACTUALLY ...
...RATH...
Is that so?
He sure likes to hear himself talk!
I COULD SEE HIM DOING THAT.
DID SAABEL SCREW UP AND TELL YOU HOW DANGEROUS GARABA WAS?
SORRY. MY MISTAKE.
I WAS ASKING IF YOU KNEW WHICH DIRECTION WE SHOULD HEAD IN!
AND HOW DOES THAT HELP US?!
WE CAN'T SEE ANYTHING FROM HERE. THE FOREST IS JUST TOO THICK.
WE SHOULD MOVE TO THE CLEARING.
AND BESIDES ...
...WE HAVE COMPANY. I THINK IT'S A FEW OF THOSE MECHANICAL DOLLS SAABEL TOLD US ABOUT.

HMM...
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
...HE'LL EXPLAIN ALL THIS EVENTUALLY?
DOES THAT MEAN...
THIS IS NOT THE TIME.
...OR THE PLACE TO DISCUSS THIS, UNDERSTAND?
!!
SO HOW WAS FIRE ABLE TO PASS THROUGH IT?
IT'S NOT THE SWORD OF THE FIRE DRAGON KNIGHT.
YOUR SWORD BELONGS TO THE DRAGON LORD, RIGHT?
That's because my actual master is--
HEY, YOU!
RATH!
YOUR... ACTUAL MASTER?
WHO IS IT?!

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I FEEL LIKE THEY'RE STILL WATCHING US.
ARE THEY STILL FOLLOWING US?
A DEMON?
WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S MOVING OF ITS OWN FREE WILL.
IF IT'S NOT A DOLL, THEN IT MUST BE A DEMON!
BUT IT'S NOT ONE OF THOSE DOLLS.
I'M NOT SURE.
WE CAN HANDLE THOSE DOLLS...
IT'S THE DEMONS I'M WORRIED ABOUT.
WE SHOULD GO BACK TO THE HIDEOUT.
WE'RE NOT SAFE OUT HERE.
WORKS FOR ME.
YEAH.
ESPECIALLY THE ONES NEAR THE CAVE. WE CAN'T LET THEM FIND OUR STUFF.

IF THEY WERE DEMONS, WE SHOULD'VE ASKED THEM FOR DIRECTIONS TO THE CASTLE.
I THINK THEY'RE GONE.
WELL GET OUR STUFF...
...THEN HIGHTAIL IT BACK TO DRAGOON.
I'VE GOT A...
...STRANGE FEELING.
HMM...
.....?

THE LIGHT DRAGON AMULET...
YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I'VE LET YOU KEEP IT.
AREN'T YOU, CESIA?
IT'S WORTHLESS.
IT'S NOTHING MORE THAN ONE OF LYKOULEON'S TOYS. YOU UNDERESTIMATE MY DEMON POWER.

THIS PURPLE SKY MAKES ME ANXIOUS.
YOUR POWER OF VIRTUE PURIFIES, RIGHT? USE IT.
IT'S MEANT TO CLEANSE SOULS, NOT FRUIT!
RUNE, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO PURIFY IT.
WHAT? HOW?!!
This is all we found
THIS ISN'T FOOD.
I DON'T THINK THIS IS EVEN EDIBLE.
HMM.
SOON YOU'LL WISH TO REMOVE THE AMULET YOURSELF.

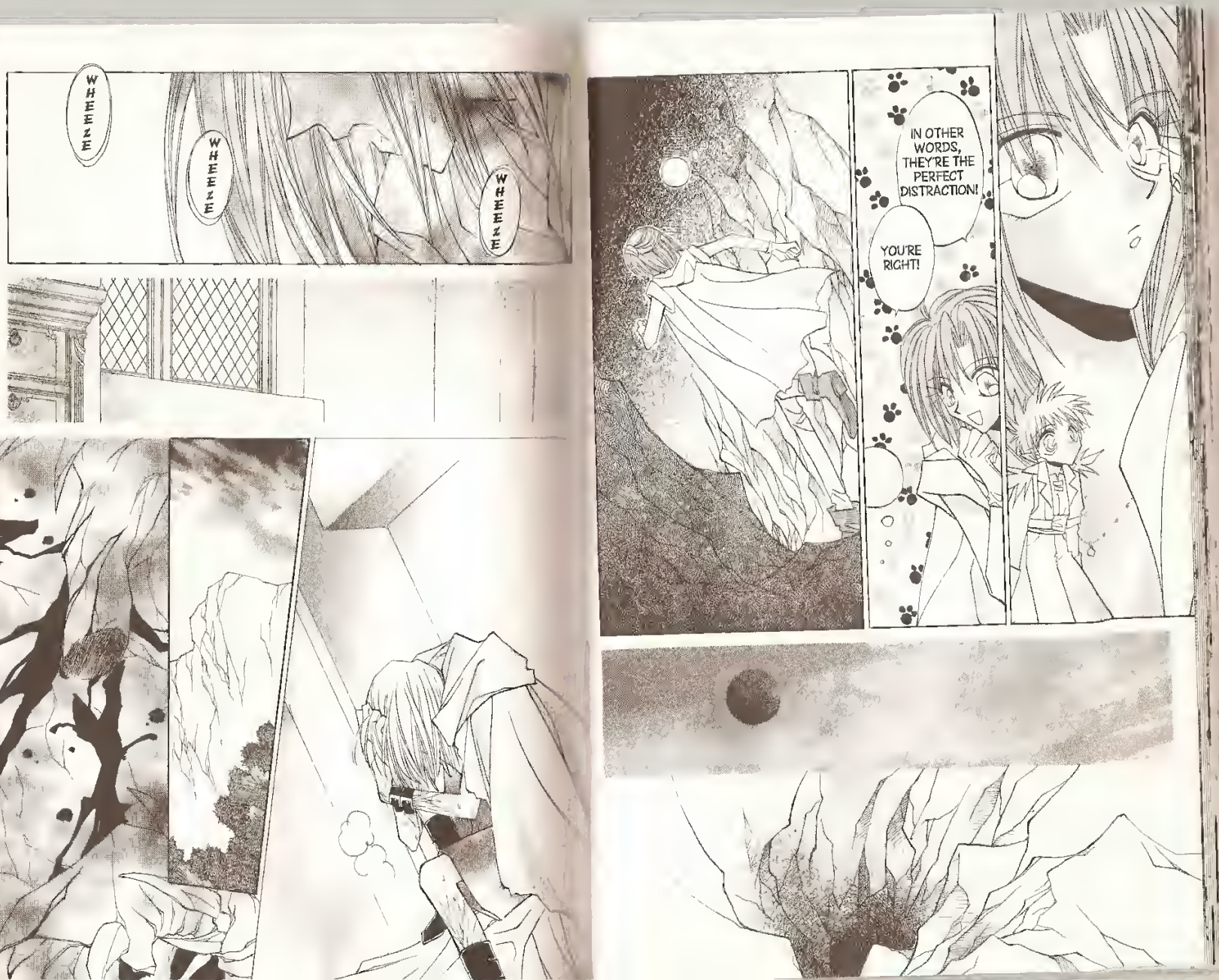
WHAT'S GOING ON?
What's wrong?
NOTHING. I JUST NOTICED SOMETHING STRANGE.
IT'S JUST... METEAURA.
HE'S BEEN REALLY QUIET FOR A WHILE.

BUT NOW WE CAN ASK FOR DIRECTIONS TO NADIL'S CASTLE.
GOOD IDEA.
CAN THESE DEMONS EVEN SPEAK?
THEY DON'T LOOK TOO BRIGHT.
I can't believe we're really doing this!

WHAT IS IT?
WE SAW IT ON THE WAY DOWN.
IT'S SOME SORT OF WHIRLPOOL.
DO YOU THINK THERE'S ANYTHING AT THE BOTTOM?
I'M NOT EVEN SURE THERE IS A BOTTOM.
MAN, THIS PLACE JUST GETS STRANGER AND STRANGER.
OOPS!
I THINK WE MAY HAVE SEEN SOMETHING THAT WE WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO.

ドオオ
KITCHEL, HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT WE'RE RUNNING INTO FEWER AND FEWER DEMONS?
AND YOU'RE QUESTIONING THIS, WHY?
!
I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE FOREST?
SHORT OF A FEW DEMON SNARLS, THAT FOREST HAS BEEN QUIET ALL DAY. NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN, THERE'S SOME SORT OF COMMOTION. SOMEONE'S PROBABLY WANDERED INTO IT BY MISTAKE AND DRAWN THE ATTENTION OF EVERY DEMON IN THE AREA. THEY'RE IN TROUBLE!
WAIT A SECOND.
CRAAAASH

HEY, UGLY! WE ARE THE SLAYERS OF THE UNHOLY, THE KEEPERS OF JUSTICE, THE GUARDIANS OF TRUTH!
WE CANNOT BE DEFEATED!
WE ARE THE DRAGON KNIGHTS, SCOURGE OF DEMONKIND! AND, UH... WE'RE KINDA LOST.
HURRY UP!
FLAP THOSE WINGS!

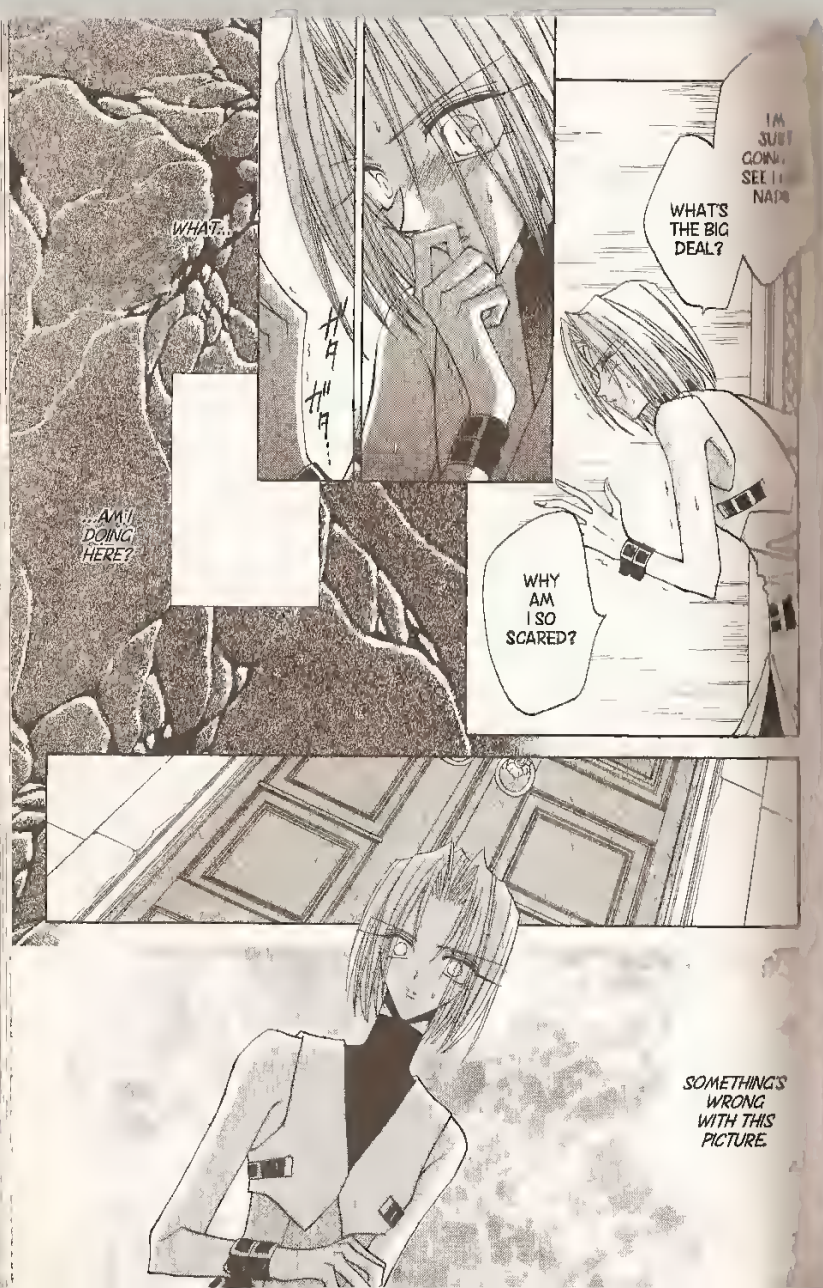

WHEEZE
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY'RE THE PERFECT DISTRACTION!
YOU'RE RIGHT!

ANOTHER FAILURE.
DAMN!

I WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM, SIR.
AND I WOULD HATE FOR THEM TO DISRUPT MY DAY.
IS HE READY TO MEET LORD NADIL?
HOW IS SAABEL DOING?
DO NOT BE IMPATIENT.
YOUR EAGERNESS IS COMMENDABLE.
BUT THE DRAGON KNIGHTS...
YES, THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ARRIVING SOON.

NOW THEN, YOU CAN AT LEAST WALK BY YOURSELF, CAN'T YOU?
STAND UP.
YES, SIR...
AAAAAH!
ARE YOU SURE?
SHYRENDORA
...REMOVE THE RESTRAINTS.
BESIDES, THIS MAKES THINGS MORE INTERESTING.
LORD NADIL HAS DEMANDED IT. WE CAN ALWAYS PUT THEM BACK ON LATER.
HE LOOKS LIKE HE CAN HARDLY WALK.
YOU HAVEN'T ROBBED HIM OF ALL HIS STRENGTH, HAVE YOU?
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
HE SHOULD BE...
I LEFT HIM ALONE FOR A FEW DAYS.

ALL RIGHT, SAABEL. YOU MAY SEE LORD NADIL NOW.
I TRUST YOU KNOW THE WAY.
ｽｯｸｯ!


I'M JUST GOING TO SEE IT NAP
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
WHAT...
HA HA HA...
...AM I DOING HERE?
WHY AM I SO SCARED?
SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE.

WHAT'S THIS?
HUH?
MY... LEGS... ARE...
...SHAKING.
AND YET, I CAN'T STOP WALKING.
I'M SCARED.
BUT WHY?

HUH!
!!
SAABEL IS TERRIFIED.
YET HE HAS NO IDEA WHY.
...TO SPICE THINGS UP A BIT.
NOTHING LIKE A TOUCH OF FEAR...

...IS ONLY GOING TO ATTRACT MORE DEMONS.
STANDING AROUND LIKE THIS...
UH...
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.
I THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH THIS THING.

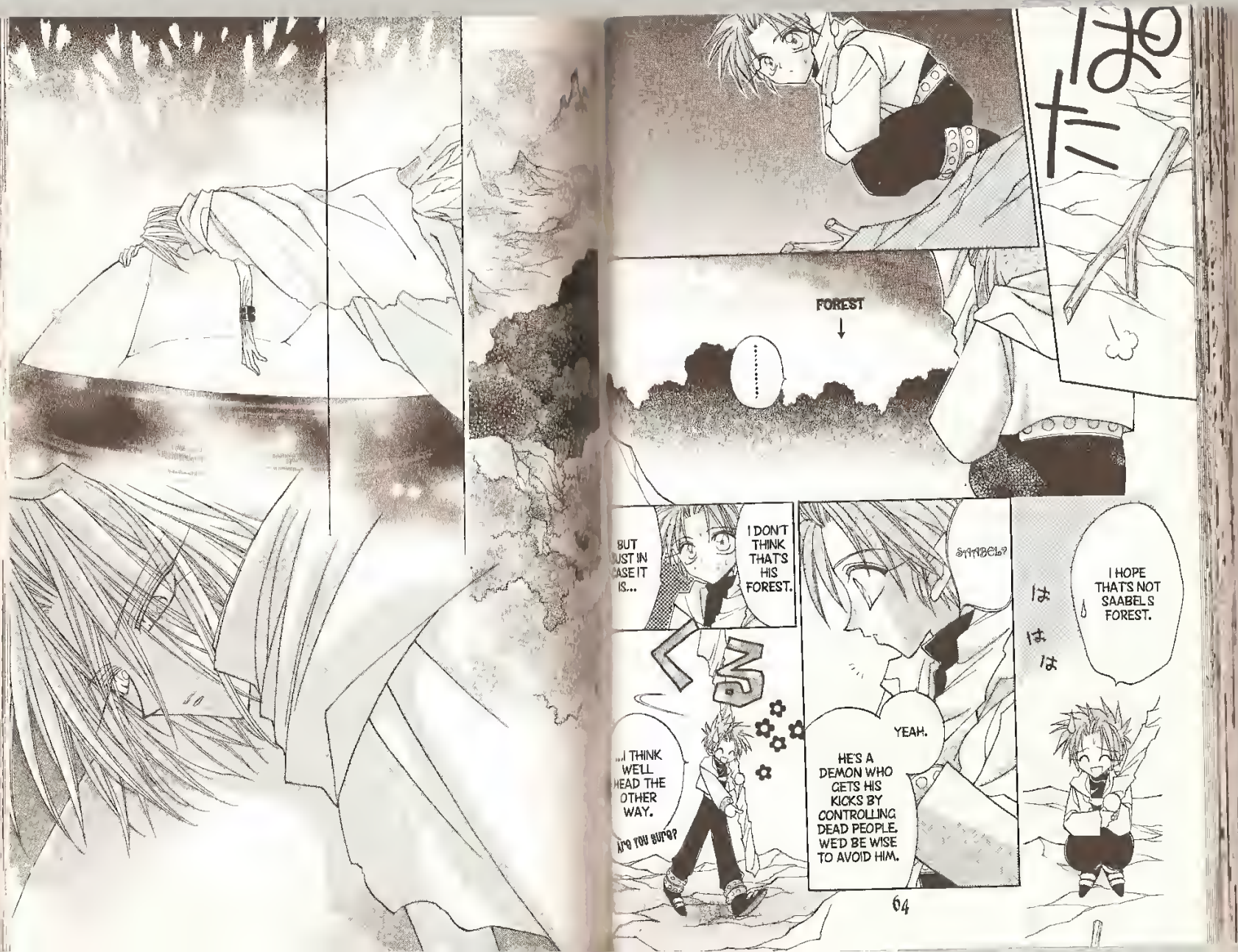
DO YOU KNOW HOW EMBARRASSING THAT IS?!
...WHY WE WERE GOING SOUTH WHEN THE CASTLES TO THE NORTH?! WE WERE ACTUALLY LAUGHED AT BY A BOG DEMON!
HOW DO WE EVEN KNOW THE DEMON WAS TELLING THE TRUTH?
WILL SOMEONE PLEASE EXPLAIN...
NEVER TRUST A DEMON. THAT'S WHAT I SAY.
YOU SPEAK RAVEN NOW, DO YOU?
OH, SURE.
WE'D BE BETTER OFF ASKING ONE OF THOSE BIRDS.
WE SHOULD KEEP MOVING.
LOOKS LIKE THE OLD RATH IS BACK...FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE.
PLENTY OF THEM AROUND TO ROUGH UP.
WE CAN ALWAYS ASK ANOTHER DEMON.

I HAD BEEN WONDERING WHY OUR LITTLE FRIEND WAS SO QUIET.
SO I DECIDED TO HAVE A LITTLE PEEK.
DOES IT MEAN IT'S DEAD?
IT TURNED INTO A FLOWER?
A BLACK ROSE?
WHAT?
RATH?
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO IT, DID YOU?
STARE
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
I'M JUST AS CONFUSED AS YOU.
WELL, THEN, WE MAY HAVE A PROBLEM...

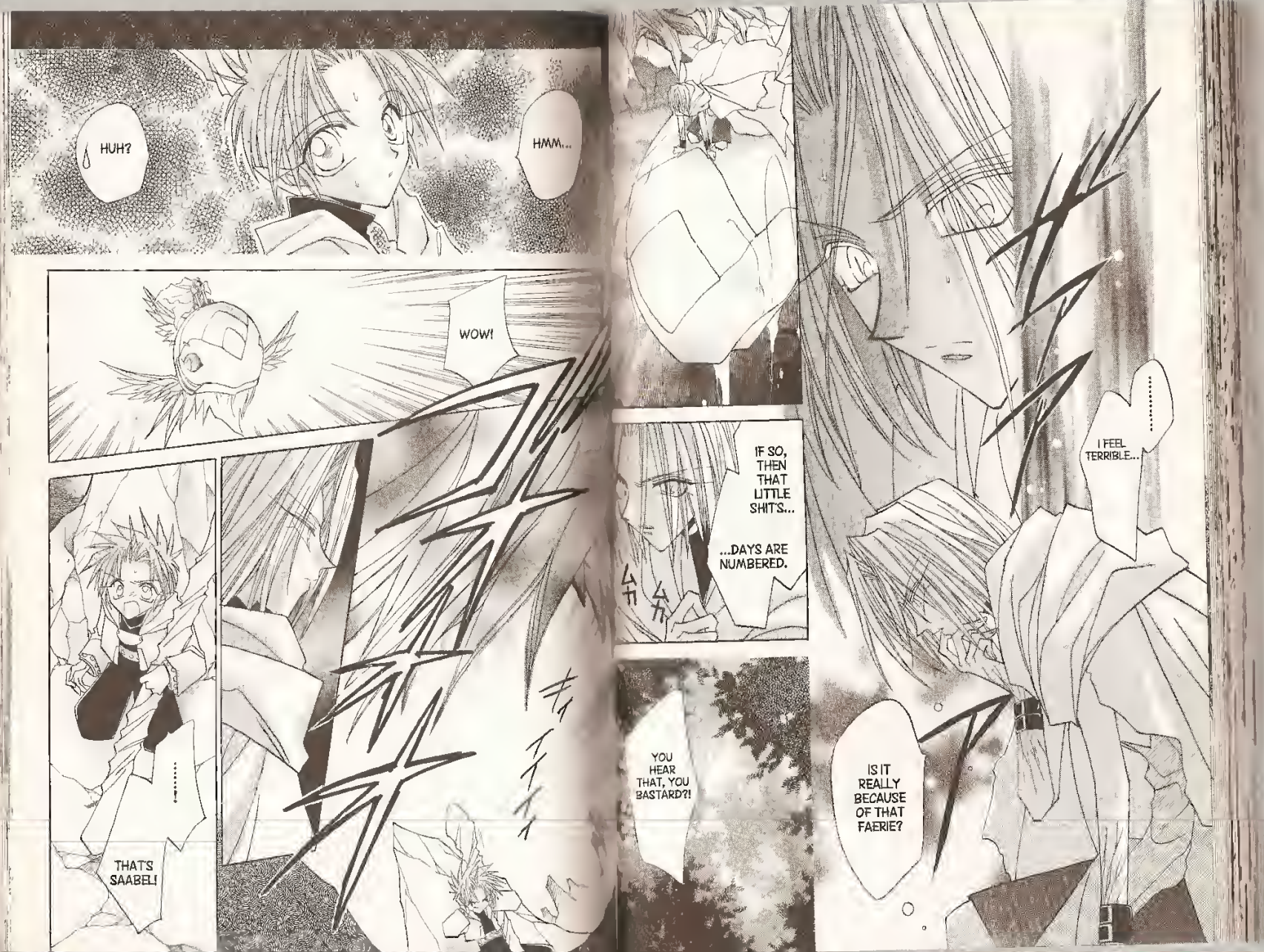
WELL, I'M HERE.
KAINALDIA'S ALWAYS NICE THIS TIME OF YEAR. THE SMELL IS SO POTENT.
And such a joyous purple sky.
AND OF COURSE, THE ZOMBIES DON'T HELP.
I didn't think I'd make it.
IT'S EASY TO GET LOST WHEN YOU'RE NAVIGATING INTER-DIMENSIONAL LINKS.
IF I WERE A POWERFUL DEMON, I COULD FLY TO THIS WORLD NO PROBLEM.
LOW-RANKING DEMONS LIKE ME REALLY GET THE SHORT END OF THE STICK.
WITHOUT A MAP, YOU'RE PRETTY MUCH SCREWED.
Are we there yet?
OOPS! SORRY...
HANG IN THERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER.

PWAAAH!

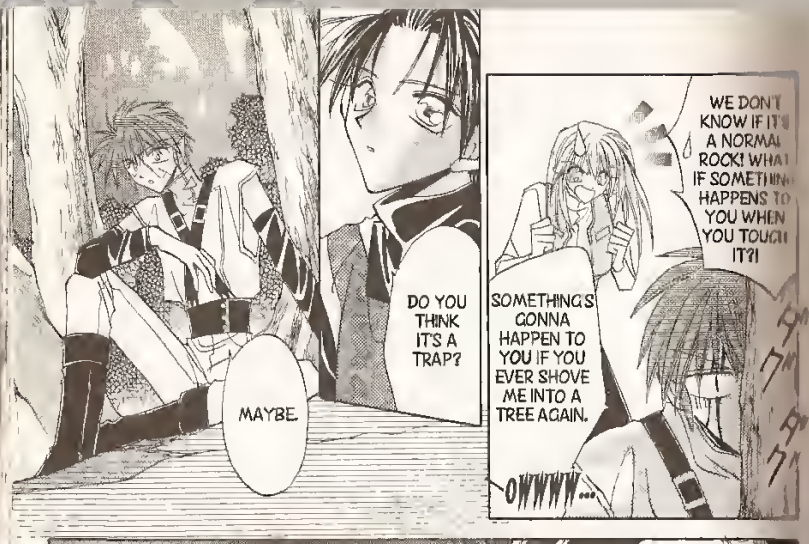
AFTER ALL...
...THIS IS DEMON TERRITORY.
WE SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS.
FOR NOW...
Kiny.
...I'll keep you...
...in here.
OH, LORD, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START.
WHAT?
NOTHING TO DO BUT START LOOKING, I SUPPOSE.
I'M NOT VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS PLACE.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW THE WAY TO NADIL'S CASTLE.
I've never been there before.
Everyone here's a demon.
I CAN'T REALLY ASK FOR DIRECTIONS.
I HAD FORGOTTEN HOW HUGE KAINALDIA IS. FINDING THE CASTLE'S GOING TO BE DIFFICULT.
WE MAY BE AT IT AWHILE.
OKAY... LET'S GO.
Hmm...
As good a method as any, I suppose.
FIRST THINGS FIRST.
WHICH WAY SHOULD WE GO?


はぁ
FOREST
.....
I DON'T THINK THAT'S HIS FOREST.
BUT JUST IN CASE IT IS...
SAABELS?
I HOPE THAT'S NOT SAABELS FOREST.
はは
YEAH.
HE'S A DEMON WHO GETS HIS KICKS BY CONTROLLING DEAD PEOPLE. WE'D BE WISE TO AVOID HIM.
...I THINK WE'LL HEAD THE OTHER WAY.
ARE YOU SURE?

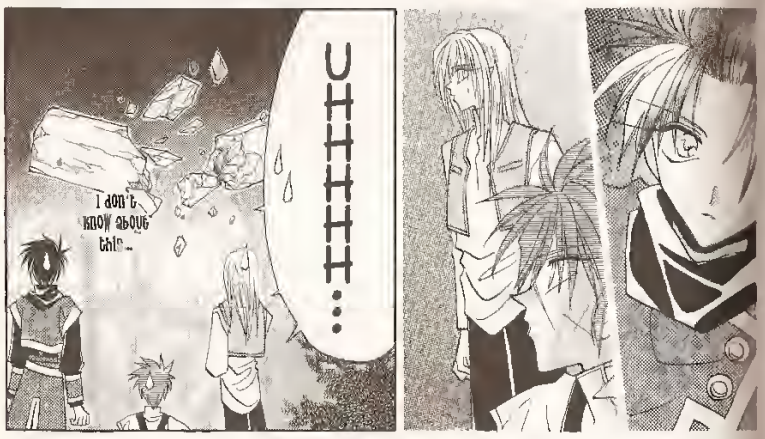
UGH...
I FEEL LIKE CRAP.
MY HEAD IS KILLING ME.
ACTUALLY, FORGET THE HEAD! MY WHOLE BODY'S IN PAIN.
I FEEL TERRIBLE...
WHAT HAPPENED? DID I FALL?
?
OH...
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
I REMEMBER NOW!
IT WAS THAT STUPID FAERIE!
...I THINK HE WAS A FAERIE. HE KINDA FELT LIKE DRAGON CLAN TO ME.
AT LEAST...
BUT, THEN, WHY WOULD HE HAVE THE LIGHT OF A FAERIE?
Ah! This is making my head hurt worse!
THE POINT IS, I MUST DO SOMETHING.
...BEFORE LORD NADIL FINDS OUT WHAT HAPPENED HERE!
GARABA!


HUH?
HMM...
WOW!
THAT'S SAABEL!
.....!
YOU HEAR THAT, YOU BASTARD?!
IF SO, THEN THAT LITTLE SHIT'S...
...DAYS ARE NUMBERED.
IS IT REALLY BECAUSE OF THAT FAERIE?
I FEEL TERRIBLE...

I'VE GOT IT! WE'LL CONSULT THE BRANCH.
WHY DON'T YOU MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND?
ぽた
THE GUY WHO CONTROLS DEAD PEOPLE?
THAT MEANS...
...THAT WAS SAABEL'S FOREST AFTER ALL.
WE GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE!
ゴオオオオオ
OH, MAN!
SHOULD WE FOLLOW HIM OR ENTER THE FOREST WHILE HE'S GONE?
YEAH, HE JUST FLEW OVER US. AND HE WAS RIDING GARABA!
AARGH!
I HAVE NO CLUE WHAT TO DO!
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER WHAT WE DO.
THIS WORLD & PATHS ARE DANGEROUS ONES
HUH?
WHAT'S THAT?


DO YOU THINK IT'S A TRAP?
MAYBE.
WE DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A NORMAL ROCK! WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU WHEN YOU TOUCH IT?!
SOMETHING'S GONNA HAPPEN TO YOU IF YOU EVER SHOVE ME INTO A TREE AGAIN.
OWWWW...

OR MAYBE...
...IT'S SOMETHING USEFUL.


UHHHHH...
I don't know about this...

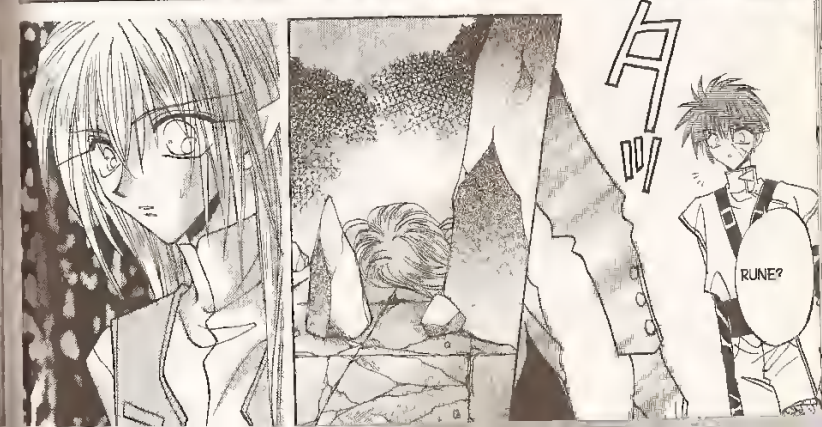
I CAN SEE THAT, RATH.
A BIG ROCK.
STATING THE OBVIOUS.

I MEAN, WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

NO, WAIT! BE CAREFUL!!!
HUh?

TINTLET!

AND IT'S NOT LIKE THE ENEMY WOULD LEAVE USEFUL THINGS LYING AROUND. OR FLOATING AROUND, RATHER.
GOOD POINT.
ANYTHING THAT LOOKS SUSPICIOUS PROBABLY IS. AND I'D SAY THAT ROCKS HOVERING IN MID-AIR FOR NO APPARENT REASON QUALIFY AS SUSPICIOUS.
WE'RE ON ENEMY TERRITORY.
HMM...
WELL, IT COULD BE PART OF A RITUAL.
STILL, I WONDER WHAT IT DOES.
HUH?


AH!!
RUNE?

.....
LET'S THINK FOR A MOMENT.
...TINTLET HAS BEEN TRAPPED WITHIN THE FIGURE OF A LITTLE GIRL.
THIS IS NOT HER TRUE FORM.
ARE YOU SAYING IT'S NOT REALLY HER?
WHAT WOULD A FAERIE PRINCESS BE DOING HERE?
THIS IS KAINALDIA, RIGHT?
AND WE HAD A HELL OF A TIME GETTING HERE.

WHAT?
Who's Tintlet?
I THINK IT'S RUNE'S GIRLFRIEND, ALTHOUGH I'VE NEVER MET HER BEFORE.
WHAT?!
IT'S TINTLET!
TINTLET?
I HEARD THAT!
NO KIDDING.
She looks like a little girl!
I MUST ADMIT, I'M SURPRISED AT HOW YOUNG SHE LOOKS.
SHE'S NOT A KID!
Fine! See if I can't you guys! Ooh.

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT THIS, BUT WE CAN'T LEAVE HER HERE.
TINTLET!
SHE'S WAKING UP.
TINTLET COULD BE DANGEROUS.
WE'VE ALREADY WITNESSED A DEMON REANIMATE A CORPSE.
SHE MAY NOT BE WHO YOU THINK SHE IS.
RATH JUST GOT THROUGH TALKING ABOUT TRAPS.
IS SHE DEAD?
SHE'S NOT WAKING UP.

NO! RUNE, IT'S NOT ME!
HUH?
TINTLET?
SHE HAS A TWIN?
HEY, KITCHEL.
I'M BACK.

CONSIDERING YOU KEPT CALLING HIM BY THE WRONG NAME, HE PROBABLY DID IT ON PURPOSE.
HE GOT US OUT OF THE TREASURE CAVE, BUT HE LEFT US STRANDED.
YOU KNOW THAT FRIEND'S GHOST COULD'VE BEEN FRIENDLIER
YOU THIEVES ARE ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT STEALING.
I'M WORRIED THAT SOMEONE OR SOMETHING IS GONNA STEAL IT.
REGARDLESS NOW THAT WE'RE HERE WE NEED TO PROTECT THE BAG.
SMOKE?
THOSE FISH SURE ARE SMOKY.

KITCHEL...
HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO STAY HERE?
WHY DO YOU ASK?
I FOUND US SOME DINNER.
REALLY STRANGE FISH!
YOU DON'T ACT LIKE IT.
LOOK, I WANNA GO BACK AS MUCH AS YOU.
I'M JUST MAKING THE BEST OUT OF THE SITUATION. YES, I WANNA GO HOME. I JUST DON'T KNOW HOW.

WELL, THE WATER BALLS WE FOUND PROVED PRETTY USEFUL
WE MIGHT AS WELL SEE WHAT ELSE IS IN THERE.
THE SMOKE...
WHERE DID IT GO?
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT CAN'T HURT TO LOOK.
DON'T RUSH ME...
...GARABA.
HEY!
THAT WAY
OVER THERE.

I'D SAY THAT'S WORTH CHECKING OUT.
TOWARDS THE SMOKE, GARABA!
MMM!
THIS AREA'S NEW TO ME.
I WONDER WHAT WE'LL FIND.
THAT FISH MAY HAVE LOOKED LIKE A DEFORMED TURNIP, BUT IT WASN'T BAD.
LET'S OPEN THE BAG.
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN THERE TO HELP US GET HOME.

AS IF I DIDN'T FEEL LOUSY ENOUGH TODAY.
oopsie!
HUH.
I'M IN A CAVE. I WONDER WHERE IT LEADS.
WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?!!
ooh, shiny rocks!
I SHOULD PROBABLY CONDUCT A SEARCH AND REPORT BACK TO LORD NADIL.
AGH!
REALLY, NOW IS NOT THE TIME.
LOOK AT MY FOOT!
HUH?!
WAAAAAAAGH!

WHAT'S...
...GOING ON HERE?

TWO TINTLETS?
TWO OF THEM?!
TINTLET?
!
GRAB
ピカ!!
ピカ!!

IT'LL BE FUN.
FINE! I'LL ASK THEM.
COME HERE, LITTLE ONE.
come on.
I HOPE YOU'RE KIDDING
Uh...
WHAT DO I DO?
WHAT ...
SEEING HOW WE'RE STILL PRETTY LOST.
THEN MAYBE YOU CAN ASK THEM IF THEY KNOW THE WAY TO THE CASTLE.
ASKING WHAT THE HELL THEY'RE DOING HERE WOULD BE A GOOD START.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THESE GIRLS CAN SPEAK. I HAVEN'T HEARD THEM SAY A WORD.
CAN YOU SPEAK?
HMM.
IF ONE OF THESE GIRLS IS A FAKE, SHE'S PROBABLY WEARING A WIG.
You can't be that straightforward!
SO WHICH ONE OF YOU IS THE REAL TINTLET?
IF I EXPLAIN EVERYTHING, WILL YOU BELIEVE ME?
THAT ONE IS A DEMON. BUT SHE IS STILL INCOMPLETE.

I CAN'T PROMISE YOU THAT.
BUT I WILL LISTEN TO YOUR STORY. DON'T BE AFRAID.
THANK YOU, ELINE.
I WENT TO ARINAS.
YOU'VE HEARD OF IT?
OF COURSE! I'VE BEEN THERE. WELL, SORT OF.
ARINAS?!
ARINAS?
ARINAS IS...
IT'S A CONTINENT FULL OF DEMONS.
but I'm not gonna tell Mitch that.
GO AHEAD AND TELL US YOUR STORY, TINTLET.
I FOUND HIM IN ARINAS.
THERE ARE ONLY TWO RESIDENTS ON THAT CONTINENT. TWO HUMAN RESIDENTS, AT ANY RATE.
ONE IS AN ANNOYING THUG NAMED GARFAKCY. AND THE OTHER...
...KHARL THE ALCHEMIST.
HE'D SLAUGHTERED SO MANY FAERIES.
I WAS TOO LATE.

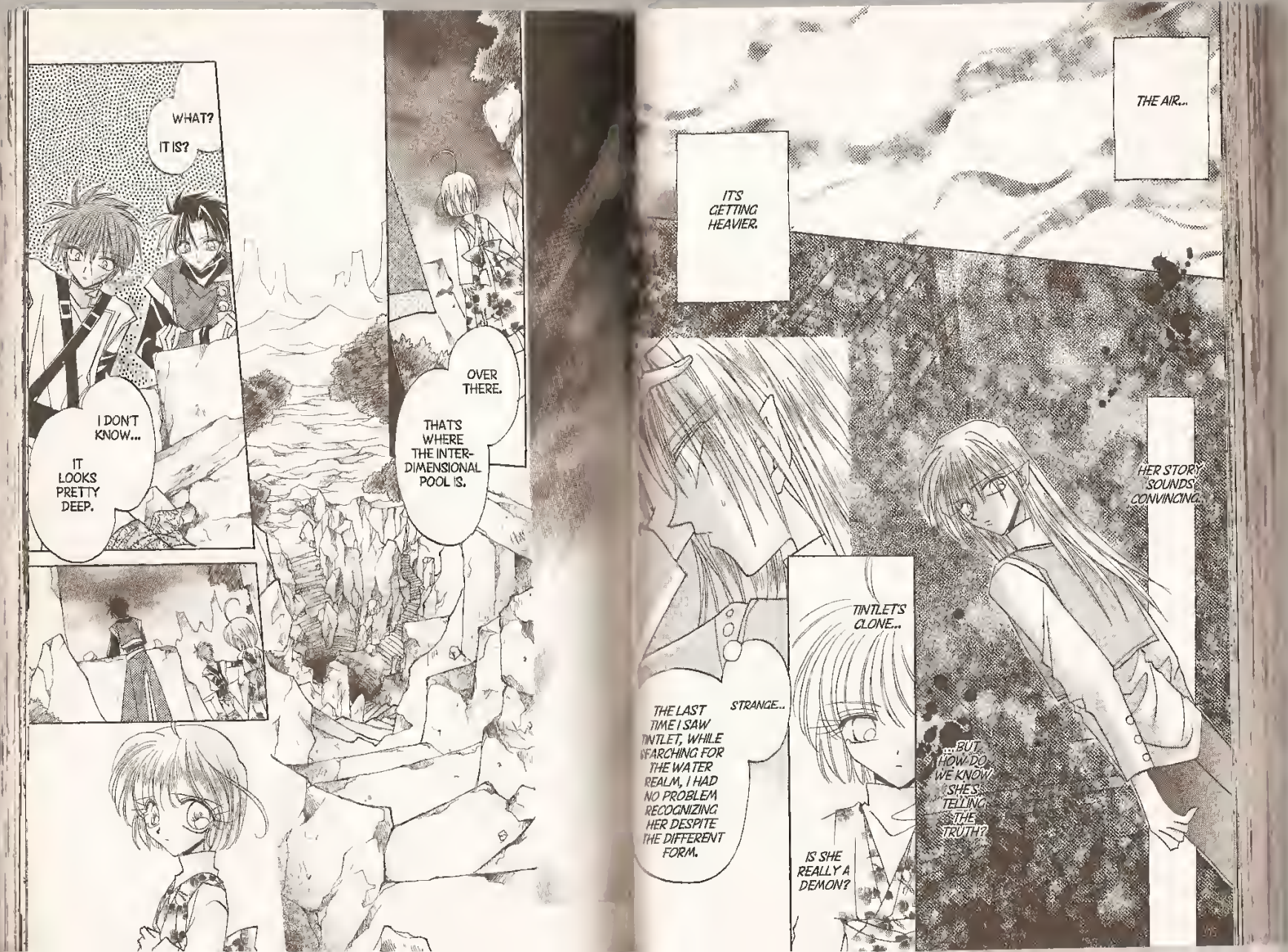
ALWAYS GOTTA KNOW EVERYTHING, DON'TCHA?
WELL, I'VE BEEN AROUND FOR AWHILE.
JUST AS TINTLET HAS.
FAERIES SOMETIMES CALL IT...
...THE WATER OF CHANCE.
I CAME HERE TO FIND SOME.
I'll Get You Later.
So, What the heck's revival Water?
WHAT?
THE WATER HAS SOME AMAZING PROPERTIES.
THE WATER OF CHANCE
Huh?
Didn't know THAT, did YOU?

SO, I...
YOU...
...WHAT?
THE DEMON'S REVIVAL WATER.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS?
WHAT IS IT?
NO, I DON'T.
I KNOW WHAT IT IS.

SO SHE'S...
...A COPY?
I KNEW THE WATER COULD ONLY BE FOUND IN ARINAS, BUT I COULDN'T ENTER THE LOST CONTINENT IN MY TRUE FORM.
SO I CHANGED MY APPEARANCE AND BECAME THIS YOUNG GIRL.
AS I WAS LEAVING ARINAS, I WAS ATTACKED BY DEMONS.
THEY OVERPOWERED ME AND REPLICATED THIS BODY.

EXCUSE ME...
...BUT WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE WATER OF CHANGE?
IN THE LIBRARY OF AN ABANDONED HOUSE.
I READ ABOUT IT IN AN OLD SPELL BOOK.
The house was full of cracked pots
cracked pots?
YOU WHAT?

I HAD TO DO SOMETHING BEFORE THE CLONE FULLY DEVELOPED.
SO I JUMPED INTO THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL WITH HER.
IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE SHE HAS HER FULL RANGE OF MOTION.
WE MUST HURRY.
DO YOU BELIEVE ME?
YOU MUST BELIEVE ME.


WHAT? IT IS?
I DON'T KNOW... IT LOOKS PRETTY DEEP.
OVER THERE.
THAT'S WHERE THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL IS.
THE AIR...
IT'S GETTING HEAVIER.
HER STORY SOUNDS CONVINCING...
TINTLET'S CLONE...
STRANGE...
THE LAST TIME I SAW TINTLET, WHILE SEARCHING FOR THE WATER REALM, I HAD NO PROBLEM RECOGNIZING HER DESPITE THE DIFFERENT FORM.
...BUT HOW DO WE KNOW SHE'S TELLING THE TRUTH?
IS SHE REALLY A DEMON?

TINTLET!
RUNE!
WHAT?
YEAH.
.....
I DON'T REMEMBER...
ARE YOU OKAY ...
...RUNE?

WHAT'S HAPPENING?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
RATH!! THATZ!!
OOOH...

DAMMIT! WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED?!
!!
がばっ!
WHERE'S RUNE?

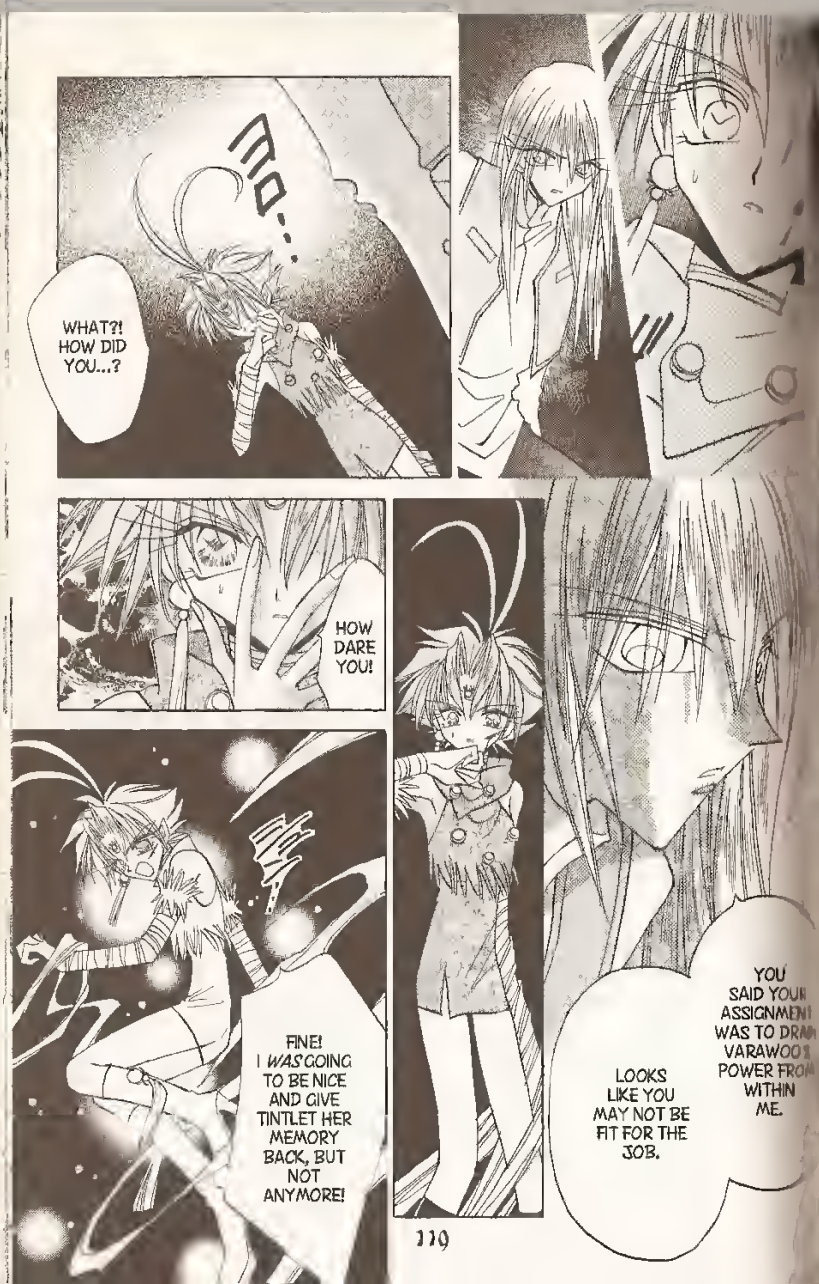
I DON'T NEED PITY FROM A DEMON.

RUNE... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WORRY ABOUT ME.

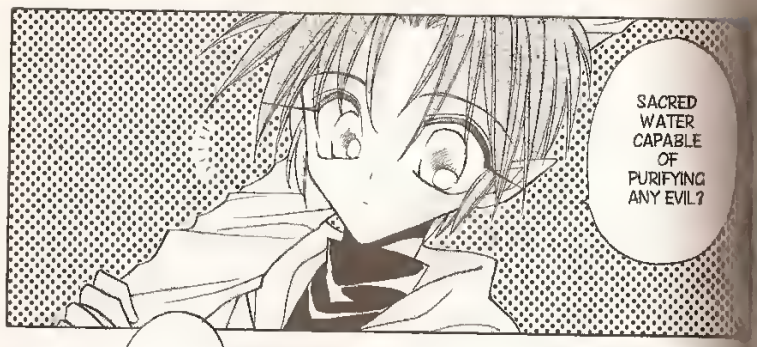
I KNEW IT!
HMPH!
HEH, HEH...
THE NAME'S LIM KAANA. NICE TO MEET YOU.
YOU CAN STILL MOVE? CONSIDER ME IMPRESSED.
YOU DRAGON KNIGHTS ARE REALLY SOMETHING.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW EASILY...
...YOU SAW THROUGH MY DISGUISE.

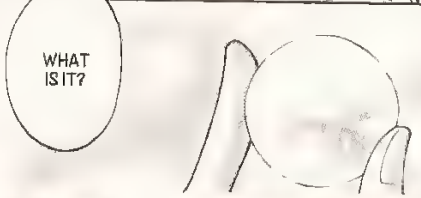
THAT'S ODD.
I'M CERTAIN I WRAPPED THIS THING AROUND ME TIGHTLY ENOUGH.

WHAT ARE...?
MY THREAD IS STRONG.
IT EVEN WORKS ON MEMBERS OF THE DRAGON CLAN.
I'M GOING TO DRAIN YOU OF ALL YOUR ENERGY. THE MIGHT OF VARAWOO WILL BE MINE!
WITH THIS THREAD, I WILL STEAL THE POWER OF THE DEMON FISH VARAWOO FROM YOU!
NO MATTER. I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO.
!
OH, THAT?
WELL, ITS MOSTLY TRUE.
I WAS AFRAID THAT BIT ABOUT THE REVIVAL WATER MIGHT GIVE IT AWAY, THOUGH.
HOW...DID YOU KNOW ABOUT TINTLET?


NO...
WHAT?! HOW DID YOU...?
HOW DARE YOU!
FINE! I WAS GOING TO BE NICE AND GIVE TINTLET HER MEMORY BACK, BUT NOT ANYMORE!
LOOKS LIKE YOU MAY NOT BE FIT FOR THE JOB.
YOU SAID YOUR ASSIGNMENT WAS TO DRAW VARAWOO'S POWER FROM WITHIN ME.

RIGHT THERE IN FRONT OF YOU.
SO, WHERE'S TINTLET?
I'VE REMOVED ALL HER MEMORIES.
So that's a girl with baggage animal, right?
ANYHOW, I MADE HER BODY INTO MY PUPPET. NEAT, HUH?
WELL, HER BODY AT ANY RATE. HER SPIRIT MANAGED TO ESCAPE. SLIPPERY LITTLE BUGGERS, SPIRITS.


SACRED WATER CAPABLE OF PURIFYING ANY EVIL?


WHAT IS IT?

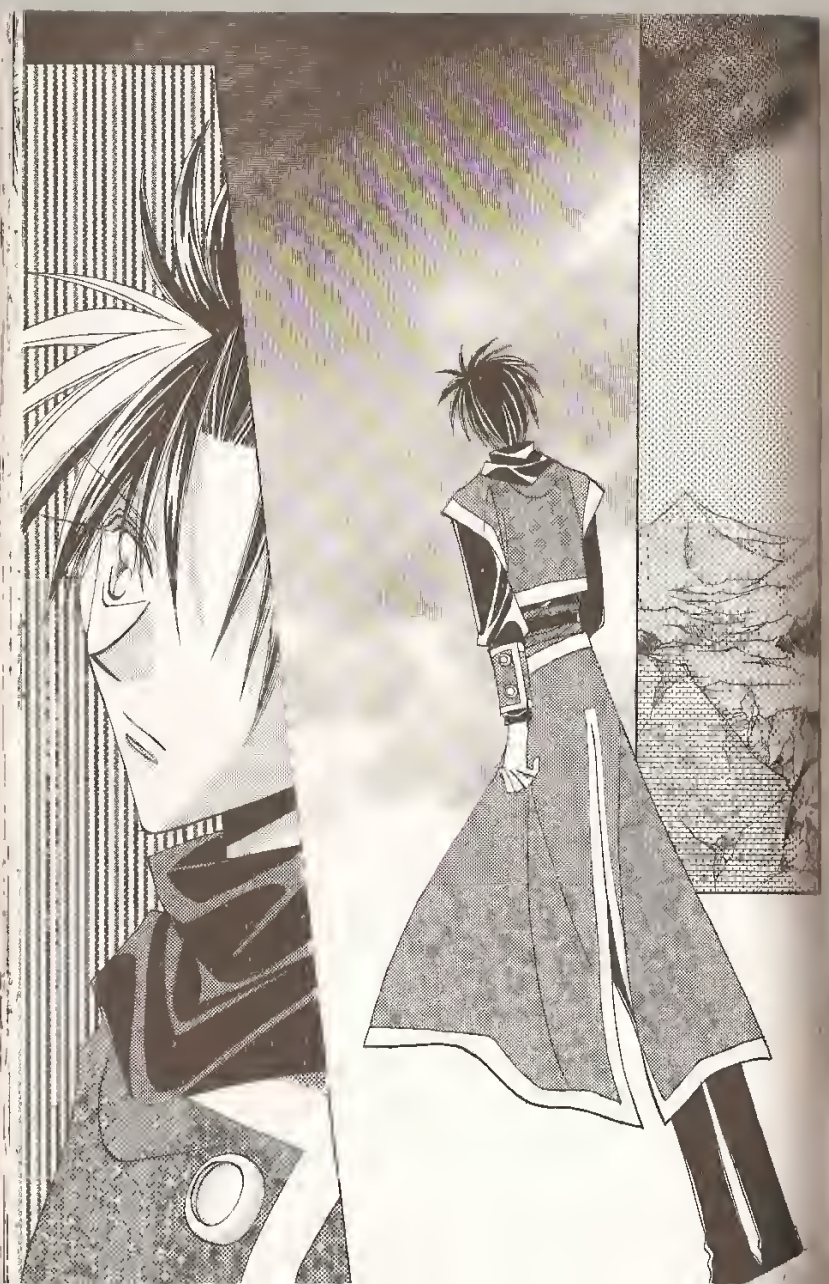
YOU'VE GOT ME CURIOUS NOW.
CESIA MIGHT KNOW WHAT IT'S CALLED.
SHE'S ALWAYS READING THOSE OLD BOOKS.

I'M NOT SURE.
THAT'S ALL I CAN REMEMBER.
THE REST OF MY MEMORIES ARE MISSING.

COME AND CHASE ME, BLONDIE!
HA HA HA HA!

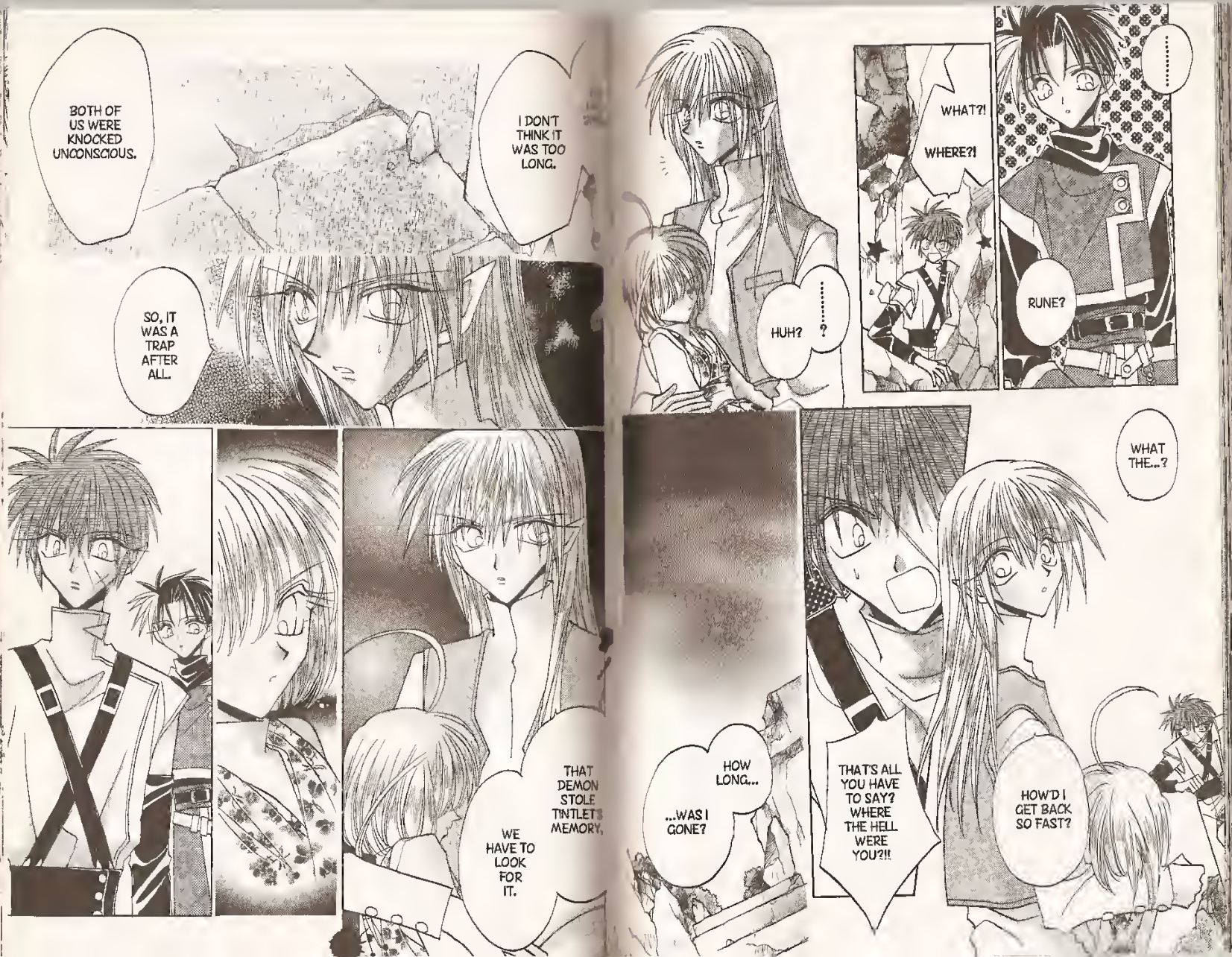
BODY! MEMORY! SPIRIT!
TINTLET WILL NEVER BE HERSELF WITHOUT ALL THREE!
NO!
WAIT!
DAMMIT!
.....

I see
THEN I'LL GET TO SEE HER.
YEAH!
I NEED TO GIVE HER THIS STAFF.
GESH?
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO GET TO NADIL'S CASTLE.
BUT I'VE GOT TO FIND HER FIRST.
WELL ...
...THAT'S THE PLAN.
SHH!
DON'T BE SO LOUD!



HEY!
RUNE!
TINTLET! AND THE OTHER TINTLET!
.....
YOU GUYS DOWN THERE?
THAT LEADS TO THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL.
AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT TINTLET WAS SAYING.

SAABEL...
I GUESS WE WON'T BE SEEING HIM AROUND.
...BUT IT TURNED INTO A ROSE. WHAT ELSE COULD I DO BUT PLANT IT?
I WANTED TO USE THA DEMONIC BUTTERFL TO LURE OUT SAABEL...
DID YOU PLANT IT PROPERLY?
Over there.
YOU FOUND A GOOD PLACE?
I SEE.
SUCH AN ODD ROSE...
I WONDER IF IT'LL BLOOM LATER.
FIRE.


BOTH OF US WERE KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS.
I DON'T THINK IT WAS TOO LONG.
SO, IT WAS A TRAP AFTER ALL.
WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR IT.
THAT DEMON STOLE TINTLET'S MEMORY.
HUH?
.....?
WHAT?! WHERE?!
.....
RUNE?
WHAT THE...?
HOW LONG... ...WAS I GONE?
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY? WHERE THE HELL WERE YOU?!!
HOW'D I GET BACK SO FAST?

はッ!
:mph!
RUNE...
THAT GODDAMN DEMON! SHE MESSED WITH THE WRONG FAERIE!
I'VE NEVER SEEN RUNE LIKE THIS BEFORE.
THE LONGER TINTLET REMAINS SEPARATED LIKE THIS, THE MORE DANGER THERE IS TO HER.
WE HAVE TO HURRY.
WAIT!
がっし!
ONCE I FIND TINTLET-- I MEAN, HER SPIRIT AND MEMORY-- I'LL MEET BACK UP WITH YOU.
I MUST LEAVE RIGHT AWAY.
THEN WHAT'S THAT?
TINTLET'S BODY.
← THIS
HER SPIRIT IS ALSO MISSING. WE MUST FIND THEM BOTH.
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL.
MEMORY? YOU SAY IT STOLE HER MEMORY?
THAT'S RIGHT.
I CAN'T ABANDON TINTLET. I'LL GO AHEAD WITH HER TO LOOK FOR HER SPIRIT AND MEMORY. YOU TWO CONTINUE ON WITH THE MISSION.
TINTLET'S MEMORY WAS...
...STOLEN BY HER CLONE.
HUH?

I KNOW.
BE SAFE, GUYS.
I'M SORRY, RUNE.
YOU CAN CONTACT ME THROUGH WATER.
GOOD LUCK.
I think.
FAREWELL.
OH, YEAH!
YOU STILL HAVE TO FIND CESIA.
You haven't forgotten, have you?
YOU'RE RIGHT!
WELL, BE CAREFUL OUT THERE.
YES, I DO. YOU'RE SHORT ON TIME AS WELL.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE.
I JUST CAN'T STAND SEEING HER LIKE THIS!
BUT WE CAN'T ABANDON OUR MISSION.
I CAN'T LEAVE TINTLET LIKE THIS.

RUNE.
RUNE.
RUNE.
RUNE.
RUNE.
RUNE.
RUNE.
WHY IS RUNE SO INTO HER?
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT GIRL?

DON'T WORRY, TINTLET.
I'M NOT ABOUT TO FAIL YOU.
WRETCHED DEMON...

LIM...
...MS. KAANA?
IS THE TASK TOO DIFFICULT...
UH...
FEDELTA?

STUPID ELF.
MAN, NOW I'M ALL UPSET!
AAAGH! GET YOUR MIND OFF OF HIM, GIRL!
WELL...
...I GUESS I SHOULD GO LOOK FOR TINTLET'S SPIRIT.
CAN'T LET RUNE FIND IT BEFORE ME.

YOU HAVE A LOT OF NERVE, LIM, WITHOUT THE POWER SHYDEMAN HAS GIVEN YOU...
...YOU'RE USELESS.
AND FIX THE STONE MONUMENT. OTHERWISE, I'LL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO REPORT YOU.
ギロッ
I WAS TRYING TO LURE OUT RUNE AND TINTLET.
It was a good plan.
SHIT.
SO YOU KNOW?
THE POWER OF VARAWOO.
ALL I GOTTA DO IS STEAL IT.
.....
ヒュッ...

UH, TASK?
YOU MEAN STEALING VARAWOO'S POWER FROM RUNE?
PIECE OF CAKE.
HMPH!
I REALLY HATE YOU, FEDELTA.
NEXT TIME YOU NEED SOMETHING DONE, DO IT YOURSELF!
I CAME CLOSE!
I JUST NEED STRONGER THREAD.
YOU LIVE AND LEARN, Y'KNOW.

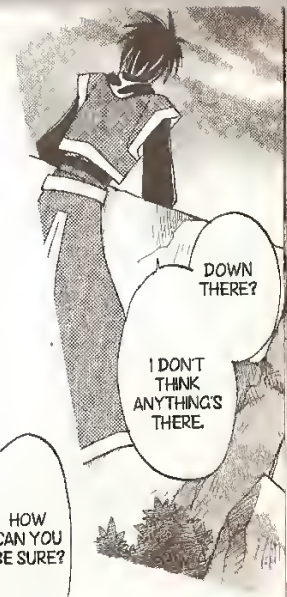
VARAWOO'S STRENGTH...
...ISN'T ESSENTIAL.
BUT IT WOULD MAKE THINGS EASIER.
SHYDEMAN TOLD ME TO KEEP THE DRAGON KNIGHTS FROM ENTERING THE CASTLE...
...BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM TOO CONCERNED ABOUT IT.
HE PROBABLY EXPECTS THEM TO GET INSIDE...
HE JUST WANTS TO HAVE SOME FUN WITH THEM.
I SHOULD JUST LET SAABEL TAKE CARE OF IT.
NEXT THING I KNOW, HE'LL BE ASKING ME TO KILL THE FIRE DRAGON KNIGHT AGAIN.
HE'S RIGHT.
THAT GIRL REALLY WOULD'VE SLOWED US DOWN.

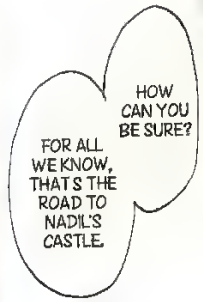
MAYBE.
WELL, I WAS FOOLED.
EVEN RUNE WAS FOOLED.
...I'M KINDA WORRIED ABOUT RUNE BEING ALONE OUT THERE.
I HAVE TO ADMIT...
...HE WASN'T EXACTLY FORTHCOMING ABOUT THE DEMON.
WELL...
ヒョオオオオ
GLORY HOUND.
THIS WAS PROBABLY SOMETHING HE WANTED TO DO ON HIS OWN.
CLEARLY.
WELL, WE MIGHT AS WELL HEAD DOWN.

A DEMON.
THAT'S WHAT RUNE SAID, RIGHT?
TINTLET'S MEMORY.
DID THE DEMON TAKE IT?
YEAH, WE FORGOT TO ASK RUNE MORE ABOUT THE DEMON.
YES, SHE DID. THEN SHE COPIED TINTLET'S BODY.
WE HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING WHICH TINTLET WAS REAL.

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE.
I WONDER WHAT TINTLET REALLY LOOKS LIKE.

I THINK THE DEMON JUST SAID ALL OF THAT TO TRAP RUNE.
BESIDES, WE CAN EXPLORE CAVES ANY OLD TIME. I'D RATHER GO BACK AND PLAY WITH THE FLOATING ROCK.


DOWN THERE?
I DON'T THINK ANYTHING'S THERE.


HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THAT'S THE ROAD TO NADIL'S CASTLE.

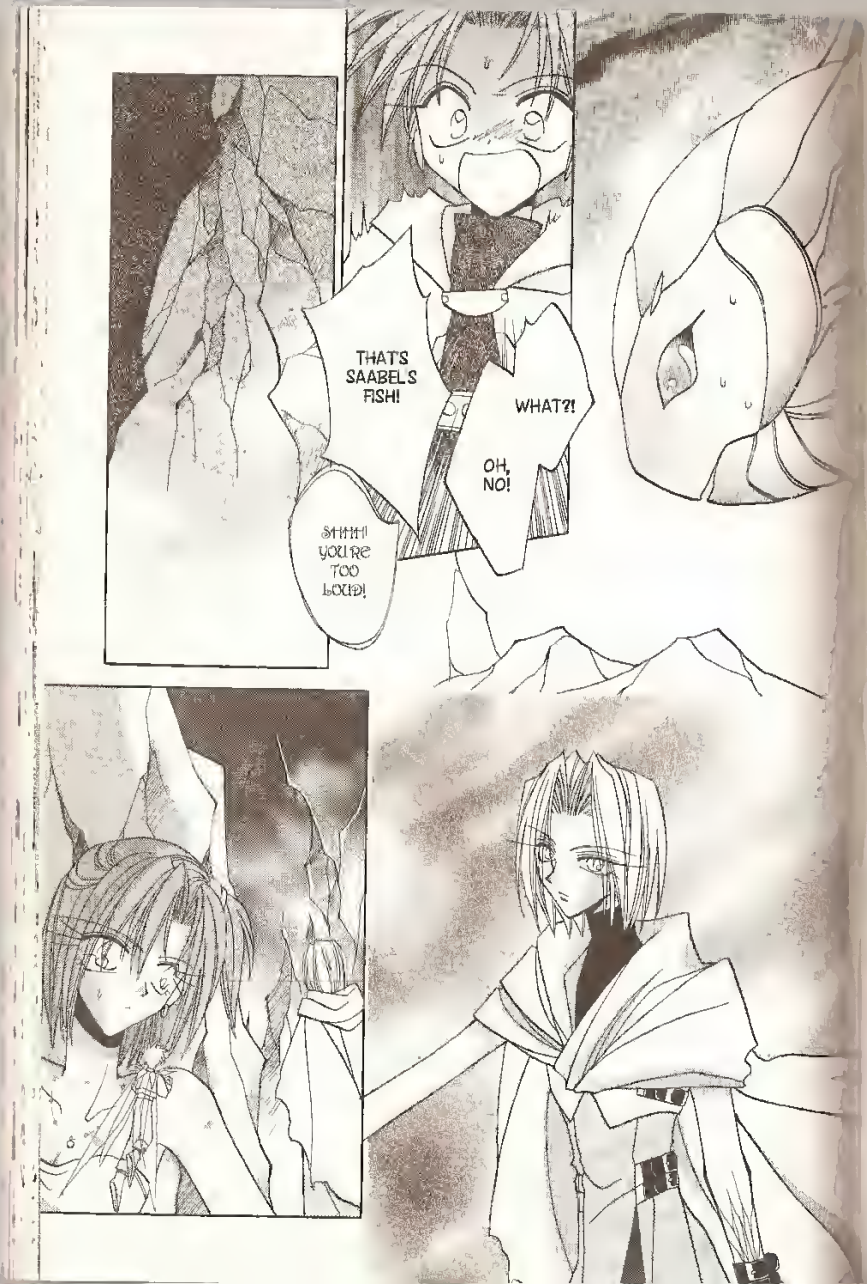
BINGO.
YOU'RE JUST HOPING THERE'S SOME TREASURE TO STEAL DOWN THERE.
.....
SO COME ON! LET'S GO!

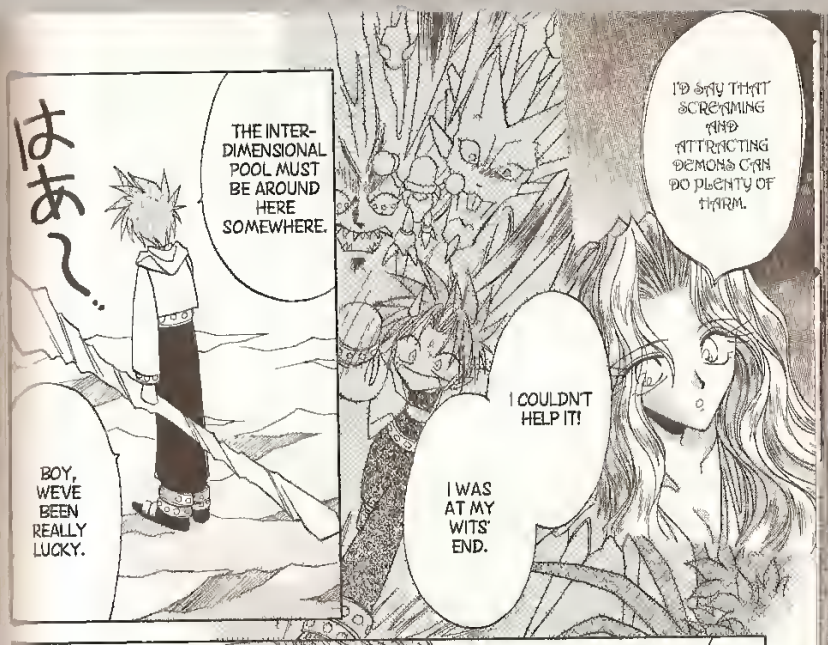
FINE.
BUT LET'S CHECK OUT THE CAVE FIRST.
I'M UP FOR THAT.

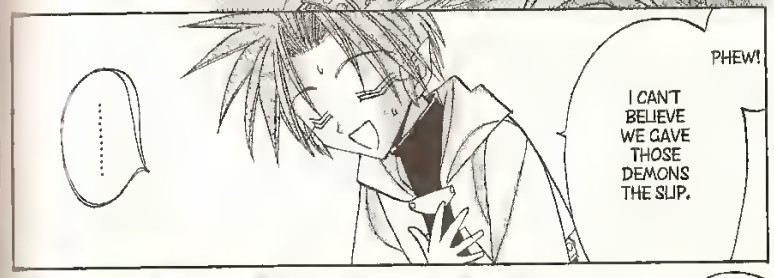
WELL, THIS STINKS! THERE'S NOTHING HERE!
I HATE TO SAY I TOLD YOU SO...
MAYBE YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING THERE INSTEAD.
SO YOU READY TO CHECK OUT THE ROCK?
MAN...
THAT INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL SOUNDED LIKE A REAL TRIP.
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO CHECKING IT OUT.
WELL, DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH
AFTER ALL, ACCORDING TO TINTLET...
...THE POOL IS...
DING
APPARENTLY SO.
...USELESS UNLESS YOU'RE A DEMON.

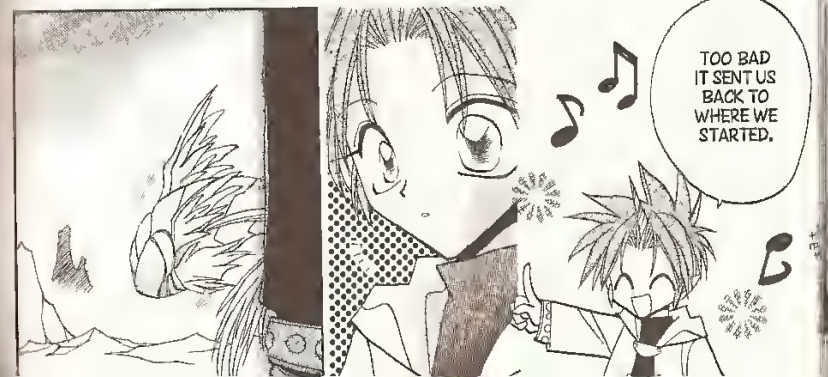
TH-THUNK
TH-THUMP
AAAAAAAAARGH!
ハッ!
ミャ!
は…
は…
は…
THE SKY IS STILL PURPLE
YES!
SEE? NO HARM DONE.
WHERE AM I?
IS THIS STILL KAINALDIA?
SKY

DEMONS...
HEY, LIGHTEN UP. KILLING DEMONS IS FUN!
BUT ALL THE PASSERSBY ARE DEMONS.
LEAVE THIS CAVE SAFE FOR ANY PASSERSBY.
HOW 'BOUT WE SEE IF WE CAN RUSTLE UP A FEW MORE OF THEM?
That's why they're called freaks.
AREN'T DEMONS WEIRD? THEY'RE LIKE MUTATED FROGS.
HEY, YOU WANTED TO COME DOWN HERE.
Put your sword away.
ONLY YOU WOULD COMPARE IT TO THAT!
THINK OF IT LIKE WALKING THROUGH A FUNHOUSE.
YOU FRIGHTEN ME, RATH!
And aren't you scared?
THIS ISN'T OUR MISSION!
C'MON! I'VE ALREADY GOT MY SWORD OUT.
don't be a spoilsport!


THAT'S SAABEL'S FISH!
WHAT?!
OH, NO!
SHHH! YOU'RE TOO LOUD!


はぁ～
THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL MUST BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.
BOY, WE'VE BEEN REALLY LUCKY.
I'D SAY THAT SCREAMING AND ATTRACTING DEMONS CAN DO PLENTY OF HARM.
I COULDN'T HELP IT! I WAS AT MY WITS' END.


……
PHEW! I CAN'T BELIEVE WE GAVE THOSE DEMONS THE SLIP.

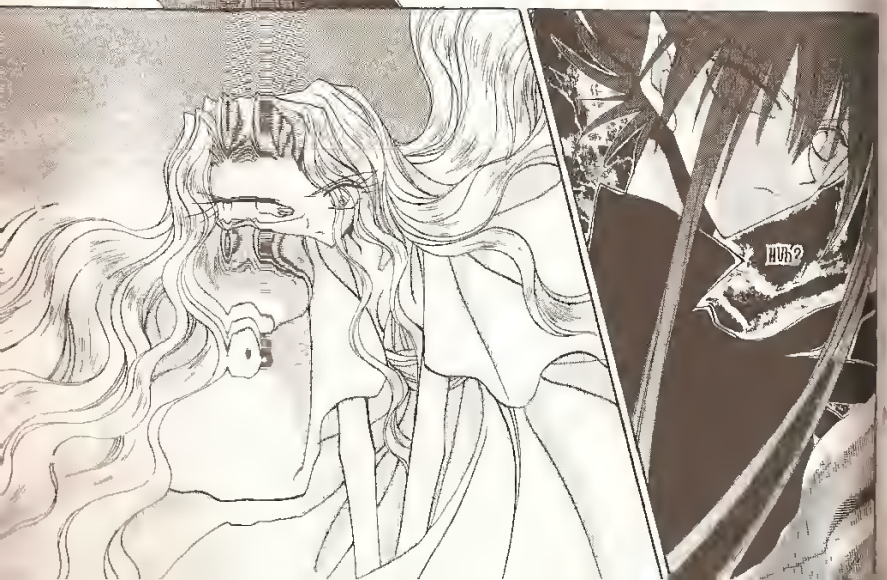

TOO BAD IT SENT US BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED.

THIS CAVE IS DEEP.
PERHAPS IT LEADS ALL THE WAY TO DUSIS.
わくわく
バキ バキ
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
THE WHOLE REASON WE WENT INTO THE INTER-DIMENSIONAL POOL WAS TO AVOID SAABEL.
WOULDN'T THAT BE EXCITING!
ゴゴゴゴ
NO!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
OH, GOD!
ZOMA..?
THAT'S FEDELTA'S FLAME!!
ボウ

FEDELTA?
OH NO...

WHAT'S...
...GOING ON?!
THERE'S ...
... SOMETHING UP THERE!
!
HUH?
IS...
...THIS...?
...THE...
THAT'S...
IT'S THE POWER OF A FAERIE!

YEAH...
IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HIS NAME'S FEDELTA, AND TRUST ME, HE'S BAD NEWS.
BE CAREFUL.
I SENSE EVIL NEARBY.


HUH?

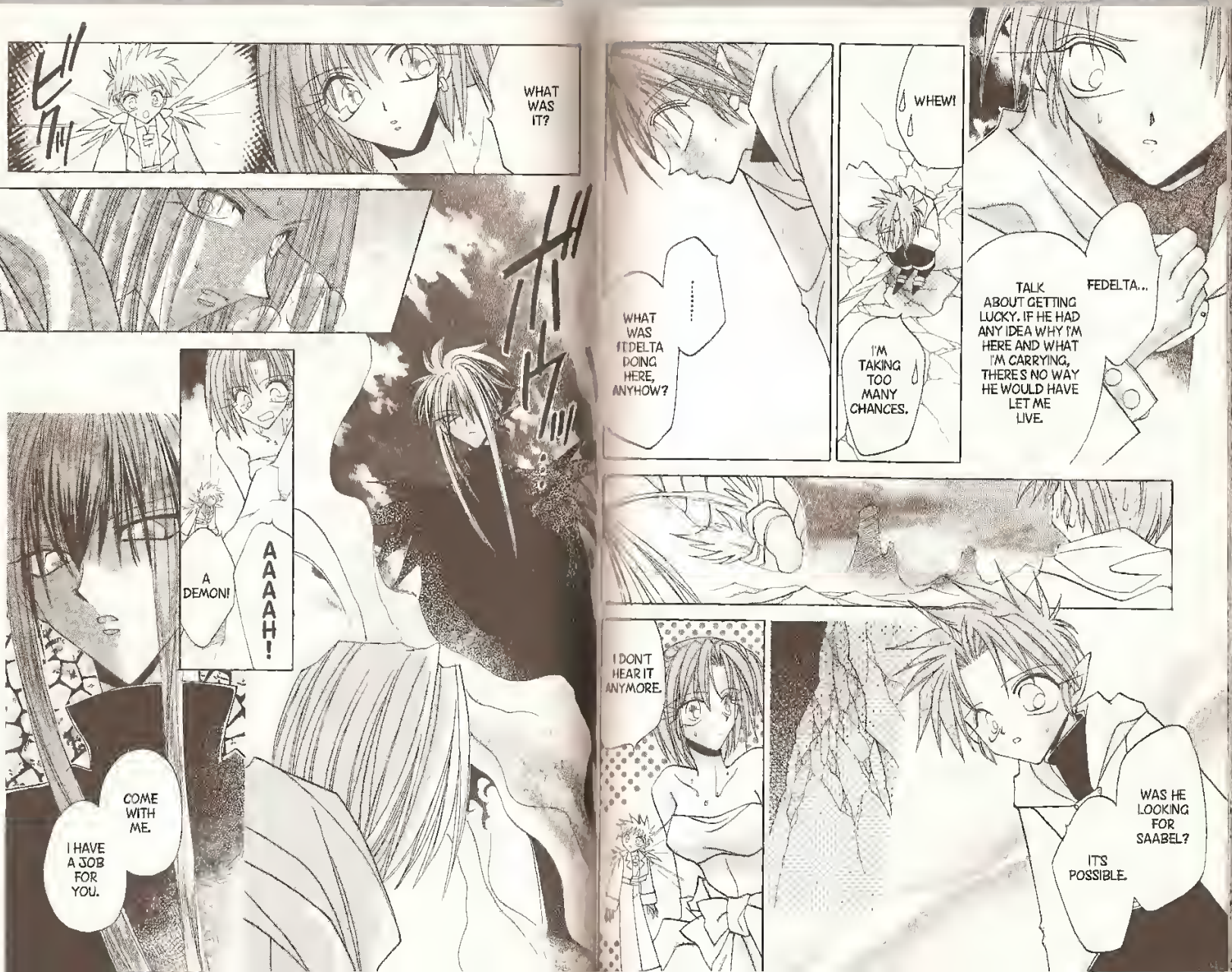
I...
I DON'T KNOW...
HEY!
WHAT'S GOING ON?! ARE YOU OKAY?!
BUT I HAVE A...
...TERRIBLE FEELING ABOUT THIS

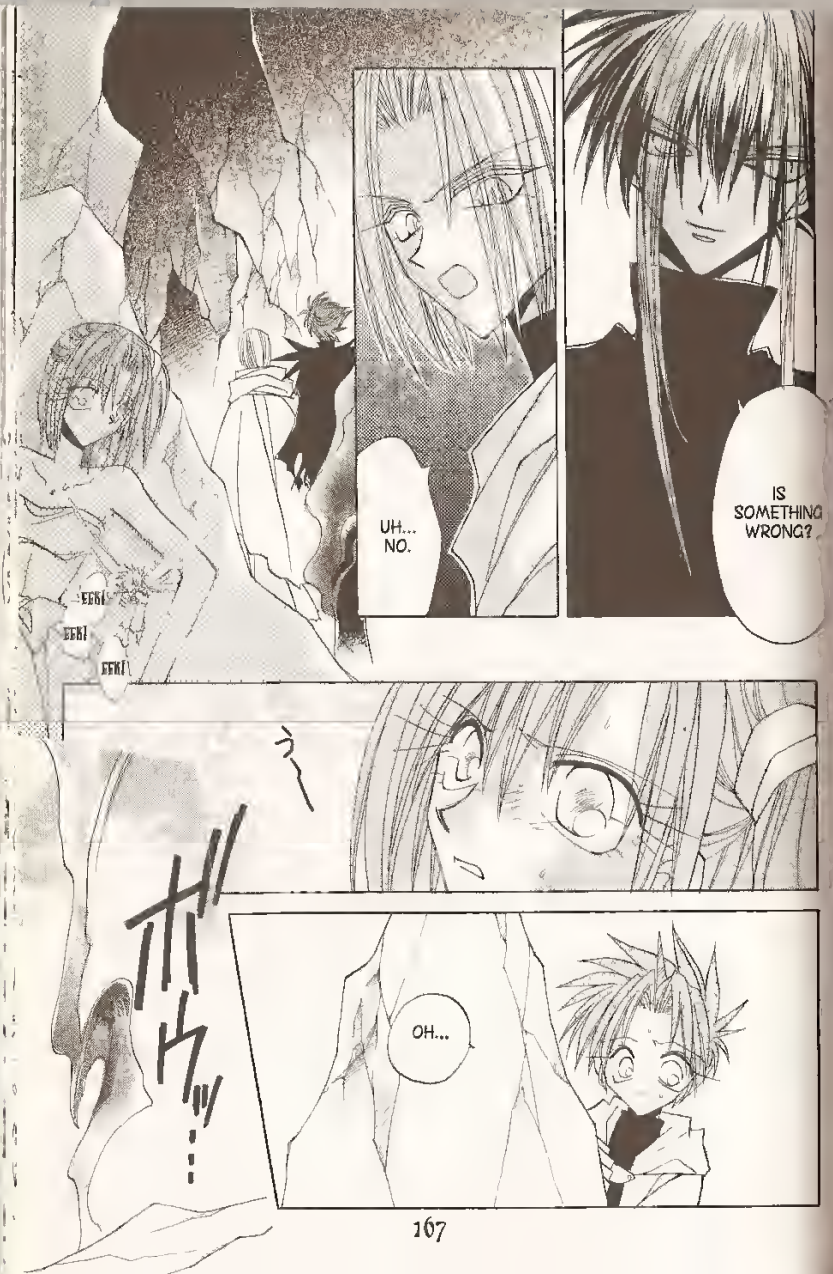
NO, NOT YOU.
IT'S THAT LOVELY LITTLE BALL OF YOURS.
YOU... YOU ARE A FAERIE?!

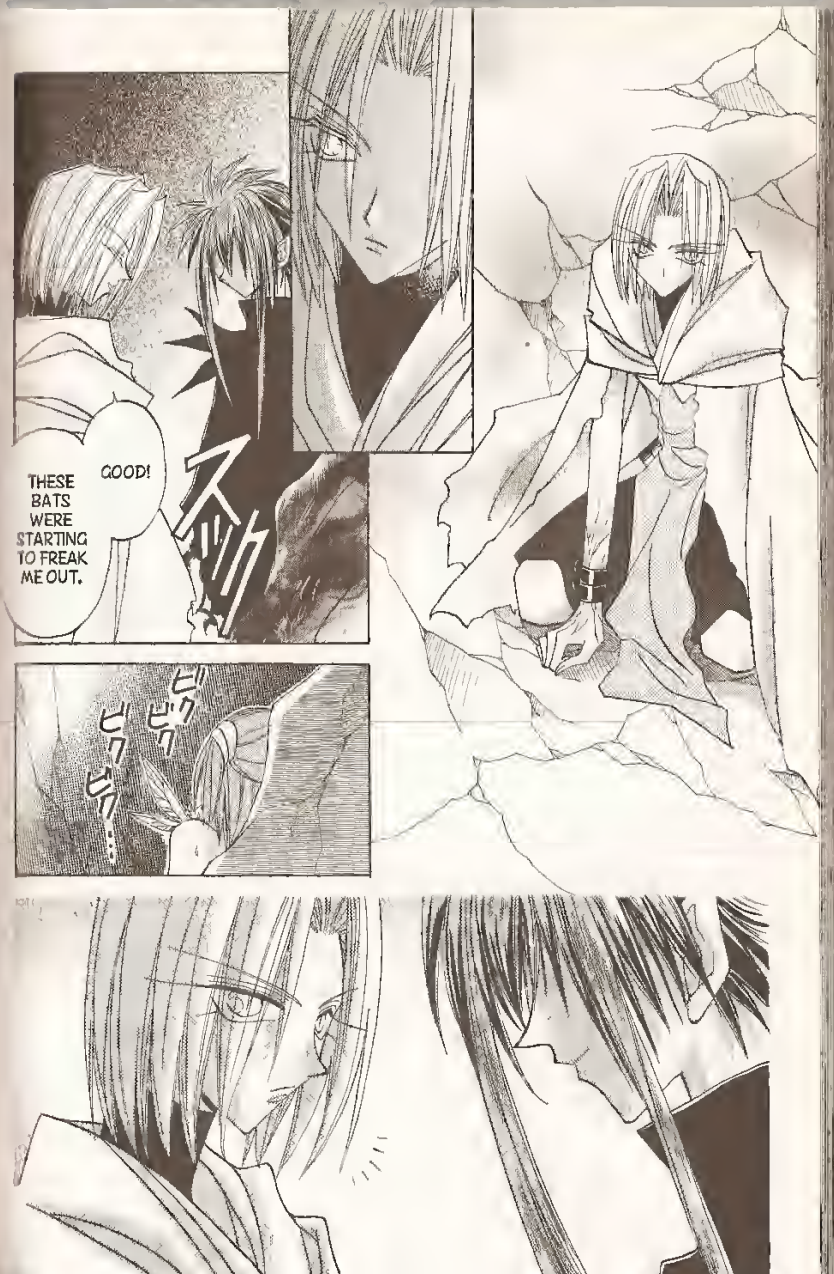
HE LOOKS... STRANGE.
LIKE HE'S STRUGGLING TO CONTROL SOME SORT OF POWER.
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
IF THAT FAERIE'S POWER IS UNLEASED, SAABEL COULD UNINTENTIONALLY OPEN THE DOOR.
SAABEL IS DOWN THERE.
WHY...?
WHY AM I SO SCARED OF FAERIES?

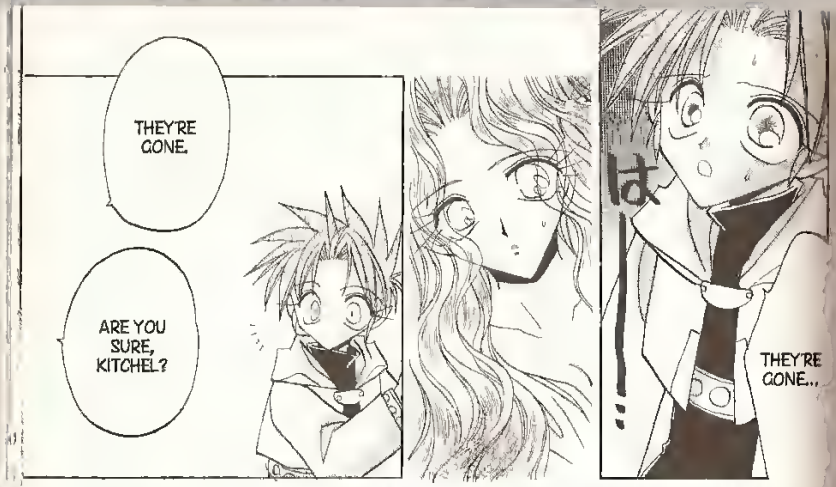
HEY!
IT'S FAERIE MAGIC!
THERE'S A FAERIE UP THERE!
BUT WHO COULD IT BE?
ズル...
ブワ!
HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN PAIN.
WHAT HAPPENED?

HEY, YOU.
ビク!
LOOK, I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PROVE...
...BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO DEAL WITH YOU RIGHT NOW.
THERE'S ALREADY ONE FAERIE FLYING AROUND DOWN HERE.
WE SURE DON'T NEED ANOTHER.
I'M NOT SURE...
...WHAT A DEMON'S DOING WITH A FAERIE, BUT TELL HER TO STOP RELEASING HER POWER.
WAS THAT FAERIE...
...IN A BALL?
ANOTHER ONE?
A FAERIE?
I'LL LET YOU GO...
...FOR NOW.
へたへた
へた…
ホッ…


WHAT WAS IT?
AAAAH!
A DEMON!
COME WITH ME.
I HAVE A JOB FOR YOU.
WHAT WAS FEDELTA DOING HERE, ANYHOW?
.....
WHEW!
I'M TAKING TOO MANY CHANCES.
FEDELTA..
TALK ABOUT GETTING LUCKY. IF HE HAD ANY IDEA WHY I'M HERE AND WHAT I'M CARRYING, THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULD HAVE LET ME LIVE.
I DON'T HEAR IT ANYMORE.
WAS HE LOOKING FOR SAABEL?
IT'S POSSIBLE.

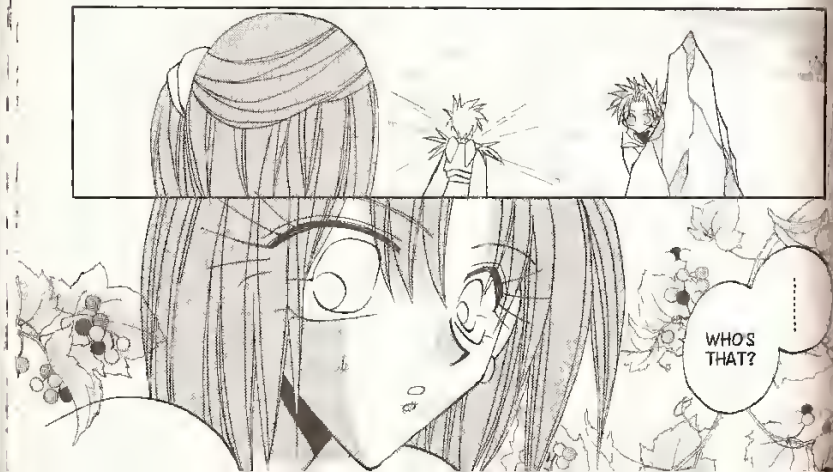

IS SOMETHING WRONG?
UH... NO.
EEK!
EEK!
EEK!
OH...


GOOD!
THESE BATS WERE STARTING TO FREAK ME OUT.


THEY'RE GONE.
ARE YOU SURE, KITCHEL?

THEY'RE GONE...

WHAT DO WE DO IF THEY COME BACK?
IT'S NOT SAFE HERE ANYMORE.


WHO'S THAT?

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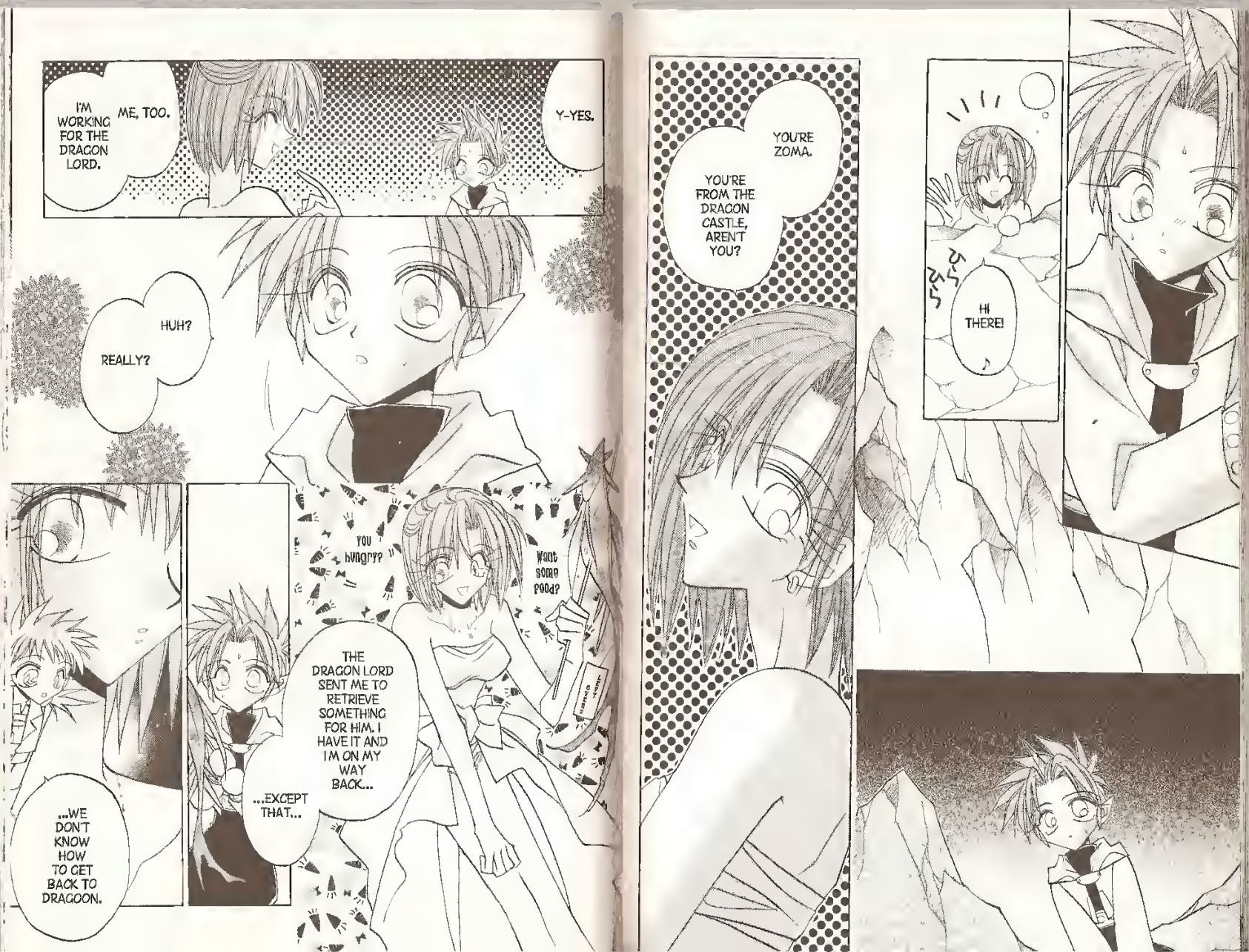
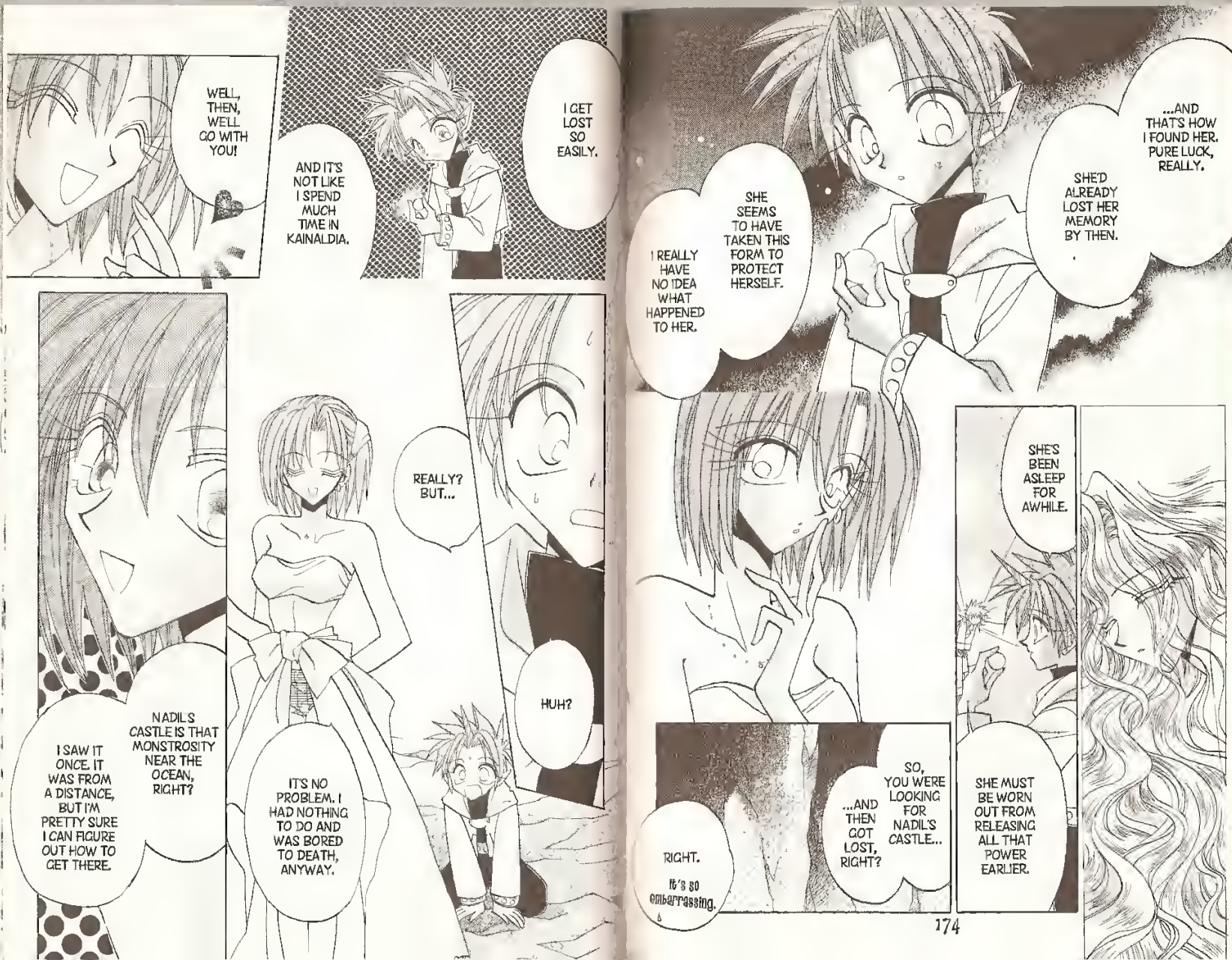
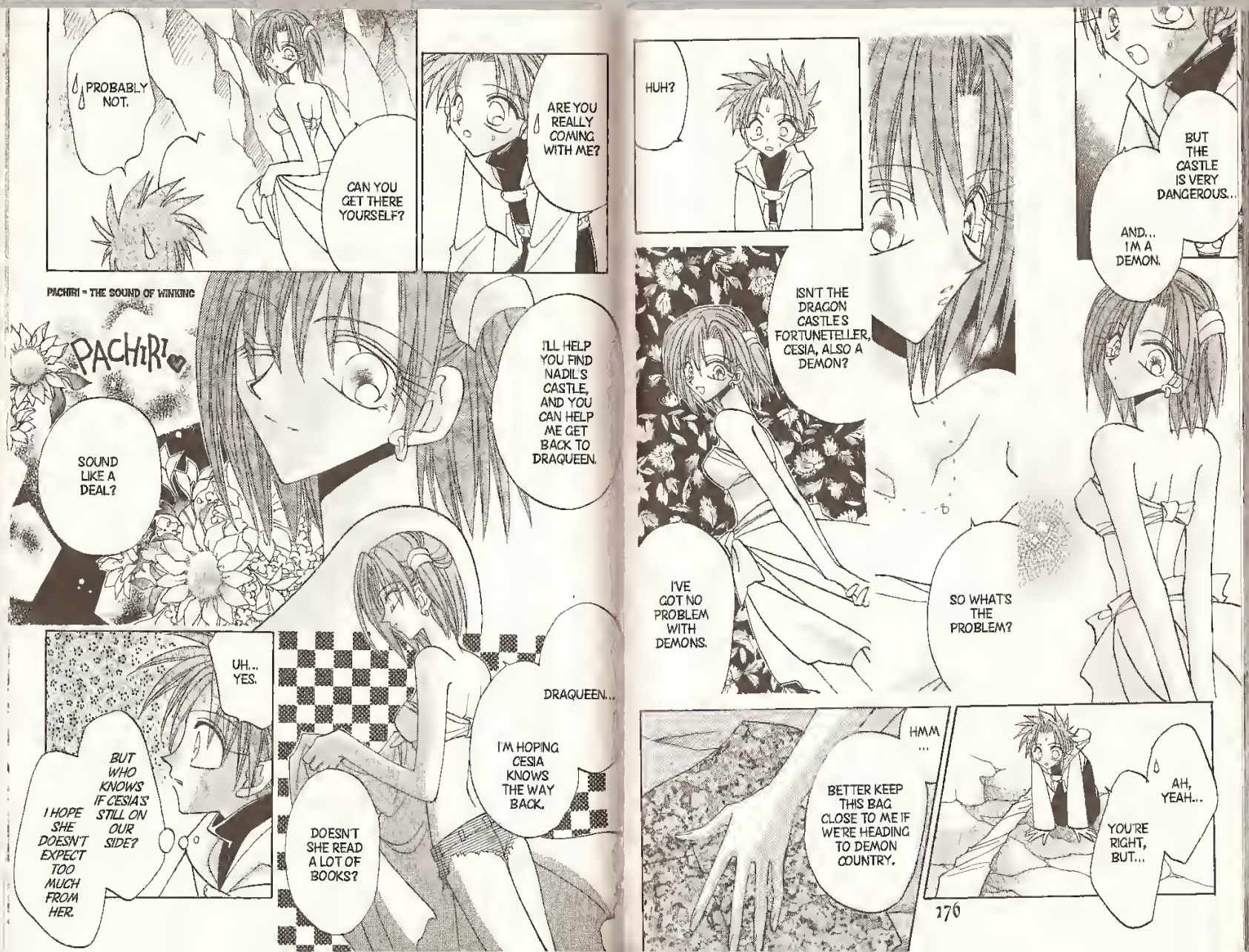
ゴォン


Y-YES.
ME, TOO.
I'M WORKING FOR THE DRAGON LORD.
HUH?
REALLY?
YOU HUNGRY??
WANT SOME FOOD?
THE DRAGON LORD SENT ME TO RETRIEVE SOMETHING FOR HIM. I HAVE IT AND I'M ON MY WAY BACK...
...EXCEPT THAT...
...WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO GET BACK TO DRAGOON.
YOU'RE ZOMA.
YOU'RE FROM THE DRAGON CASTLE, AREN'T YOU?
HI THERE!

HER NAME IS...LADY TINTLET?
WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?!
WHERE IS HER BODY?!
HER MEMORY?! HOW?!
WHAT HAPPENED TO LADY TINTLET?!
たじ
たじ
LADY TINTLET, WHAT'S GOING ON?!
AH... WELL...
SHE'S LOST HER MEMORY, SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW.
UGH!
QUIET!
WHY DON'T WE FILL EACH OTHER IN?
IT APPEARS THAT WE'RE BOTH ON THE SAME SIDE. MAYBE WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER OUT.
AND SO ON AND SO ON...

I FOUND THIS BALL. THERE'S SOMEONE INSIDE IT.
A FAERIE?
ごそごそ
I'M NOT SURE IF SHE'S REALLY...
YOU'RE THE SECOND PERSON TO REFER TO HER AS A FAERIE.
OH, HEY...
YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE A FAERIE WITH YOU, DO YOU?
LADY TINTLET!!
OH, HEAVENS!


WELL, THEN, WE'LL GO WITH YOU!
AND IT'S NOT LIKE I SPEND MUCH TIME IN KAINALDIA.
I GET LOST SO EASILY.
I SAW IT ONCE. IT WAS FROM A DISTANCE, BUT I'M PRETTY SURE I CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET THERE.
NADIL'S CASTLE IS THAT MONSTROSITY NEAR THE OCEAN, RIGHT?
IT'S NO PROBLEM. I HAD NOTHING TO DO AND WAS BORED TO DEATH, ANYWAY.
REALLY? BUT...
HUH?
I REALLY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO HER.
SHE SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN THIS FORM TO PROTECT HERSELF.
SHE'D ALREADY LOST HER MEMORY BY THEN.
...AND THAT'S HOW I FOUND HER. PURE LUCK, REALLY.
SHE'S BEEN ASLEEP FOR AWHILE.
SHE MUST BE WORN OUT FROM RELEASING ALL THAT POWER EARLIER.
SO, YOU WERE LOOKING FOR NADIL'S CASTLE...
...AND THEN GOT LOST, RIGHT?
RIGHT.
It's so embarrassing.


PROBABLY NOT.
CAN YOU GET THERE YOURSELF?
ARE YOU REALLY COMING WITH ME?
PACHIRI = THE SOUND OF WINKING
PACHIRI
SOUND LIKE A DEAL?
I'LL HELP YOU FIND NADIL'S CASTLE, AND YOU CAN HELP ME GET BACK TO DRAQUEEN.
UH... YES.
I HOPE SHE DOESN'T EXPECT TOO MUCH FROM HER.
BUT WHO KNOWS IF CESIA'S STILL ON OUR SIDE?
DRAQUEEN...
I'M HOPING CESIA KNOWS THE WAY BACK.
DOESN'T SHE READ A LOT OF BOOKS?
HUH?
ISN'T THE DRAGON CASTLE'S FORTUNETELLER, CESIA, ALSO A DEMON?
I'VE GOT NO PROBLEM WITH DEMONS.
SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
BUT THE CASTLE IS VERY DANGEROUS...
AND... I'M A DEMON.
HMM...
BETTER KEEP THIS BAG CLOSE TO ME IF WE'RE HEADING TO DEMON COUNTRY.
AH, YEAH...
YOU'RE RIGHT, BUT...

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PASS THROUGH SAABEL'S FOREST.
I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I FELT THIS GREAT.
I WONDER IF A DETOUR WOULD TAKE TOO LONG.
THIS ROAD LEADS AROUND THE FOREST, BUT WE'D HAVE TO SCALE THOSE MOUNTAINS.
THIS WAY LEADS TO SAABELS FOREST, AND TO THE CASTLE BEYOND.
INTERESTING...
I can hear her mind working.
AND EVEN MORE SO FOR HUMANS.
KAINALDIA'S A VERY DANGEROUS PLACE, YOU KNOW.
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO BEING HUNTED. IT'S KINDA A RUSH, ACTUALLY.
DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
C'MON, GUYS! TIMES'A WASTING!
WE COULD HELP HER OUT.
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN OUT HERE FOR A REASON.
DID I TELL YOU SHE HAS NO PATIENCE?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR OTHER FAERIES.
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FOUND LADY TINTLET.
KITCHEL DOES WHAT SHE WANTS.
IT'S USELESS TO ARGUE WITH HER.

HEY, ZOMA, ARE YOU A REAL DEMON?
LAST TIME I CHECKED. WHY?
'CAUSE YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE IT.
HAVE YOU MET THE DRAGON LORD?
IS HE AS GREAT AS THEY SAY?
DEFINITELY.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT JUST BEING IN HIS PRESENCE...
...PURIFIES YOU. EVEN IF YOU'RE A DEMON.
TETHEUS TOLD ME SO.
TETHEUS?
YES.
HE'S THE BLACK DRAGON OFFICER.
HE USED TO BE A DEMON, BUT THE DRAGON LORD RESCUED HIM. TOOK HIM UNDER HIS WING.
I DIDN'T KNOW ONE OF THE DRAGON OFFICERS USED TO BE A DEMON.
THE DRAGON LORD NEVER FAILS TO SURPRISE ME.
NO WONDER HE HAD NO PROBLEM ASKING A THIEF TO HELP HIM OUT.
HUH? ARE YOU A THIEF, KITCHEL?
YEAH. I ACTUALLY TRIED TO ROB THE CASTLE.
WHAT ?!
I FIGURED A CASTLE THAT BIG HAD TO BE HARBORING SOME SERIOUS TREASURE.

Dragon Knights

In Volume 16:

Our heroic trio divided, it now falls on Rath and Thatz to rescue Cesia. As they journey ever closer to Nadil's castle, it becomes increasingly clear that this mission will not be as simple as they would have hoped. Rune's problems, on the other hand, arrive in the guise of a feisty little demon named Lim Kaana. She'll stop at nothing to usurp Varawoo's power and leave the Dragon Knight of Water hanging by her thread. Under normal circumstances, Rune would make short work of such an overly ambitious demon, but nothing about this situation is normal. For Lim Kaana, you see, has Tintlet's memory, which Rune has pledged his life to get back. The stakes are high, the lines are drawn, but which side will emerge victorious? Believe us when we say it's not who you think. It's sweet 16 for Dragon Knights, and you're not going to want to miss it!

Mineko Ohkami

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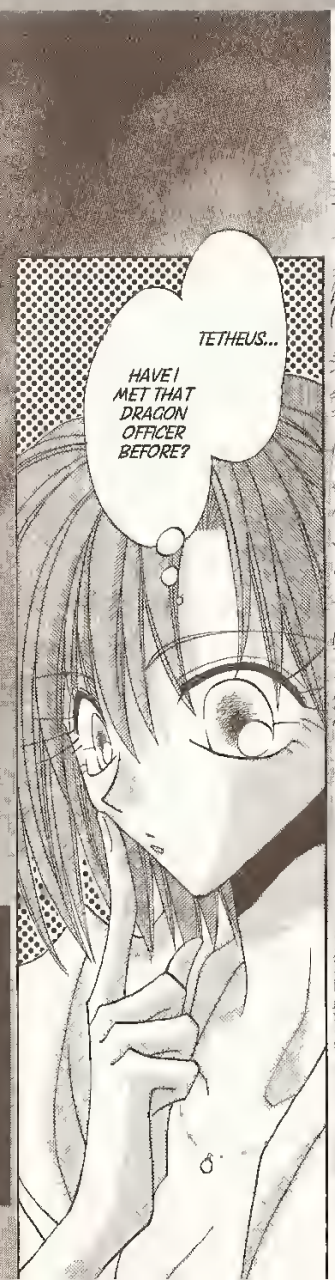

DRAGON KNIGHTS 15 END